CHAPTER 71　潜【DIVE】

ALL OF NEURO'S MOVEMENTS STOPPED
ギ…
ギギ…
IN THE REAL WORLD…
BETWEEN THE SILENT NEURO AND THE COMPUTER
GOING ON RIGHT NOW
THERE WAS NO MISTAKING THAT THERE WAS A BATTLE USING HUGE AMOUNTS OF DATA
HE WAS POURING ALL OF HIS POWER…
INTO INVADING THE ONLINE WORLD THROUGH THE USE OF HIS DAEMON WORLD TOOLS…
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キュポ
I WONDER WHAT I SHOULD DOODLE ON HIM NOW…
IF HE'S NOT MOVING, THIS IS MY CHANCE TO GET REVENGE
HOLD ON

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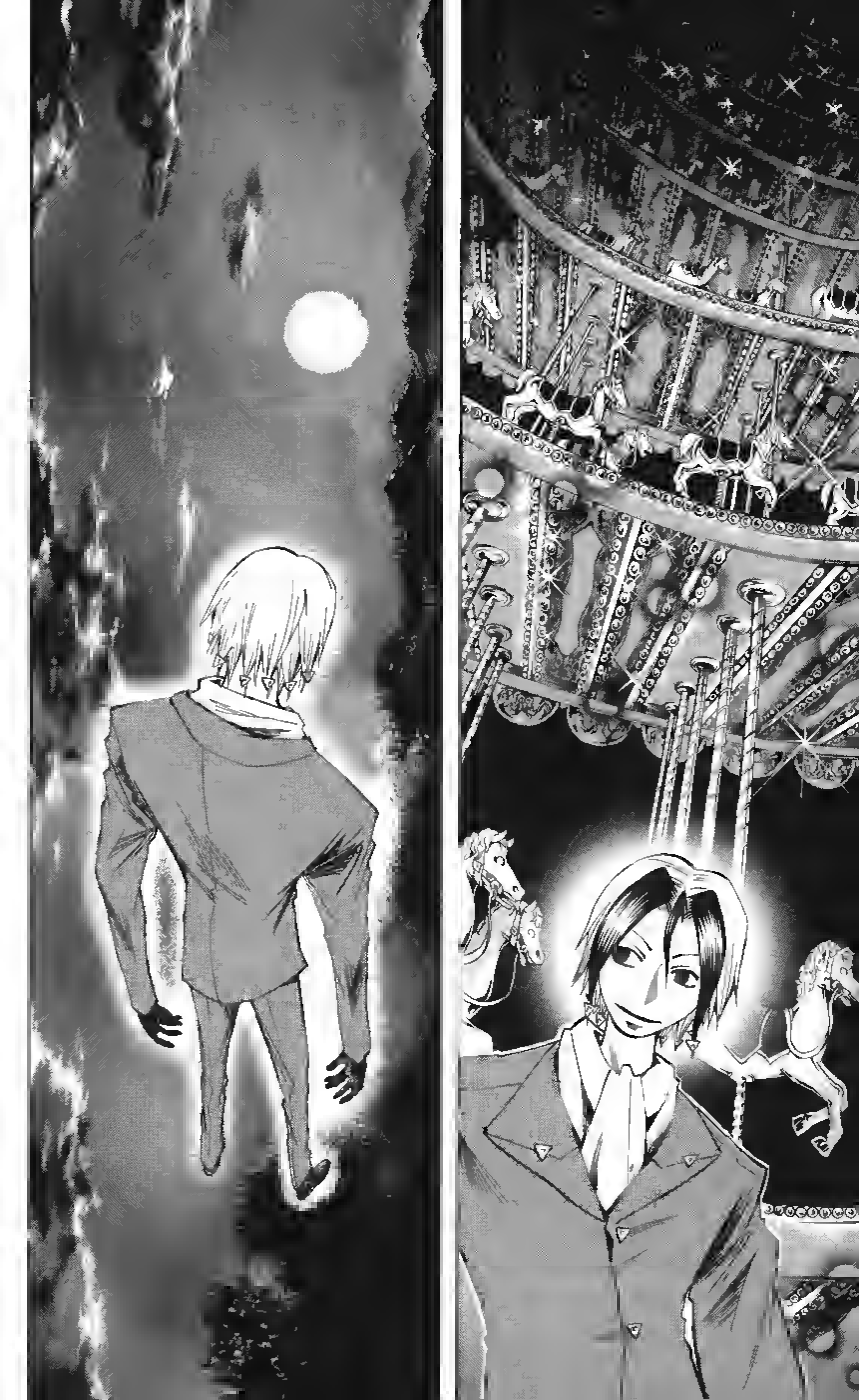
B-BUT
MORE IMPORTANTLY!!
WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF LOOKING INTO THE VIDEO THAT JUST SHOWED A MOMENT AGO!!
WAS JAPAN'S LOSS THE MOTIVATION FOR THIS...
SUDDEN
AMOUNT OF VIOLENCE FROM THE PEOPLE ON THE STREET !!?
ON THE STREETS, THOSE THAT SAW THE LOSING MATCH...
IT'S HORRIBLE CHAOS!!
...NELIRO!!
YOU HAVE TO HURRY AND DO SOMETHING!!
THE ELECTRONIC DRUG WAS WREAKING HAVOC ON PEOPLE'S MINDS!!
AND NOW, TONIGHT
IT ACCELERATED THE PACE YET AGAIN!!

NOW
THEN



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HMPH

HOPELESS
THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF FIRST CONTACT ARE DIFFERENT
THIS TIME, I HAVE EVEN CONSTRUCTED...
PROGRAMS THAT ATTACK DEFENCE PROGRAMS

WELCOME
TO MY WORLD OF ZEROS AND ONES
AS EXPECTED, NEURO
NOBODY BUT YOU COULD GET THIS FAR

...NO
STRICTLY SPEAKING, THIS IS OUR FIRST MEETING
HARUKAWA EISUKE
YOU COULD SAY THIS IS THE SECOND TIME WE HAVE MET
MY NAME IS ELECTRONIC PERSON HAL
A PROGRAMMED PERSONALITY CREATED FROM THE TRANSFORMATION OF HARUKAWA'S BRAIN INTO DATA

IF I WAS TO MAKE A GUESS, I WOULD PERHAPS SAY A FATAL AMOUNT
IN OTHER WORDS
IN THAT RESEARCH LAB
THERE WERE TRACES OF BLOOD THAT HAD BEEN WIPED AWAY
ELEC-TRONIC PERSON
HMPH
I HAVE A POOR SENSE FOR THE DISTINCTION
MY HANDS CUT HIS LIFE SHORT
THE LIFE OF THE ORIGINAL HARUKAWA
...YES
I AM NOTHING BUT A POWERLESS BOX IN THE WORLD OF ONE
SOLDIERS TO ACT AS MY HANDS IN THE REAL WORLD ARE NECESSARY
PRECISELY SO
AS YOU KNOW, EVEN THOUGH I AM UNDEFEATABLE IN THE WORLD OF ZEROS AND ONES
YOUR HANDS...
THOSE WHO YOU CONTROL BY USE OF THE ELECTRONIC DRUG

DESIRES, URGES, AND SUCH THINGS...
ARE THE DRIVING FORCE THAT CONTROLS THE INTENT AND ACTIONS OF LIVING THINGS
AROUND THE AXIS OF THE PERSON'S DESIRES
TO PUT IT SIMPLY, THE STIMULUS OF THE IMAGE REARRANGES THE CIRCUIT OF THE SYNAPSES...
TO CREATE IN A CORNER OF THE BRAIN THE NEW PERSONALITY OF A SOLDIER

THIS IS WHAT HARUKAWA AND I CREATED
THE PROGRAM YOU CALL THE ELECTRONIC DRUG

IT IS EASY TO TURN THE AXIS OF PERSONALITY TOWARDS VIOLENT DESIRES AND DESTRUCTIVE DESIRES
PEOPLE THAT WANT TO HIT, PEOPLE THAT WANT TO STAB
BY GRANTING THESE DESIRES
IT BECOMES POSSIBLE TO CREATE A VARIETY OF TROOPS

FUHAHA
BUT
ONLY A HANDFUL CAN BE USED AS SOLDIERS
AM I INCORRECT?
...EXACTLY
BEFORE THE PERSONALITY HAS FINISHED BEING CONSTRUCTED, THE MAJORITY ...
WILL BE CAUGHT AS CRIMINALS
AND SO
TO OBTAIN A COLLECTION OF SOLDIERS
I AM FORCED TO RECRUIT ON A MUCH GRANDER SCALE SUCH AS THIS
I KNEW, NEURO
THAT YOU WOULD LIKELY TAKE THIS WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY ...
AND COME ONCE AGAIN TO INVADE
.....

BUT, NEURO!!
FINDING THE MAIN PART OF ME!
WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU!!

THESE
THREE SUPPORT PROGRAMS
CAN STRENGTHEN THE AREA AROUND ME
TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT EVEN AN EXISTENCE THAT SURPASSES HUMAN UNDERSTANDING...
CANNOT REACH ME
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!!
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I...
MUST LIVE
FOR THAT
I MUST ACCORDINGLY ELIMINATE...
...ANY INTERFERENCE
キィィィ

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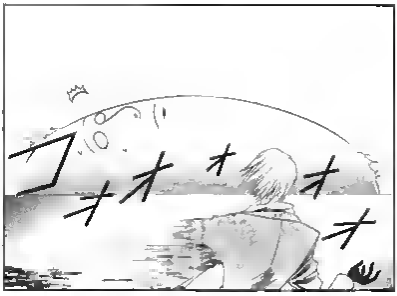
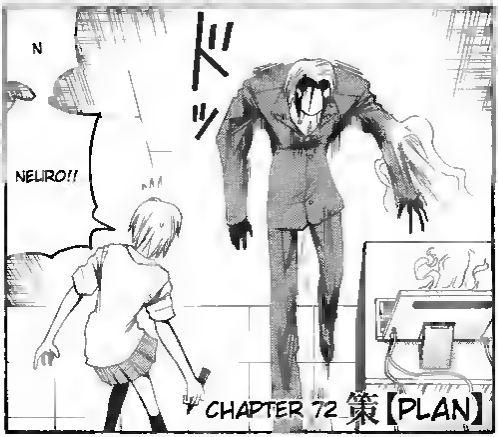
AND WITH THAT....
IT IS PROVEN
IN THE WORLD OF ONES AND ZEROS
I AM UNDEFEAT-ABLE
GOODNIGHT...
CHILD OF THE NEURONS

STOLEN



...TERRIBLE THINGS ARE HAPPENING IN THE WORLD, BUT
FOR THE TIME BEING, I'LL MAKE A LITTLE DOODLE
...FIRST, ON HIS CHEEK...
"MISTRESS YAKO IS THE GREATEST"

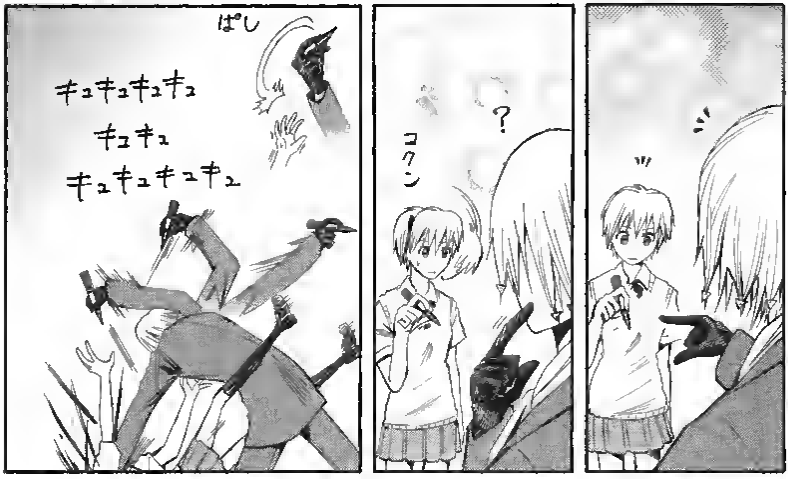


CHAPTER 72 策【PLAN】

TRANSLATION: ANONYMOUS, EDITING: ANONYMOUS, CLEANING: ANONYMOUS
NO TRACE LITE PUBBLY UNTIL LICENSED TRANSLATION. EDIT, ANONYMOUS DOES NOT FORGIVE!

THE WAY THINGS ARE AT PRESENT...
I DID NOT WIN
OF THE ONE CALLED...
HUH?
THE "ELECTRONIC PERSON"
I CANNOT EAT THE "PUZZLE"

.....
...NEURO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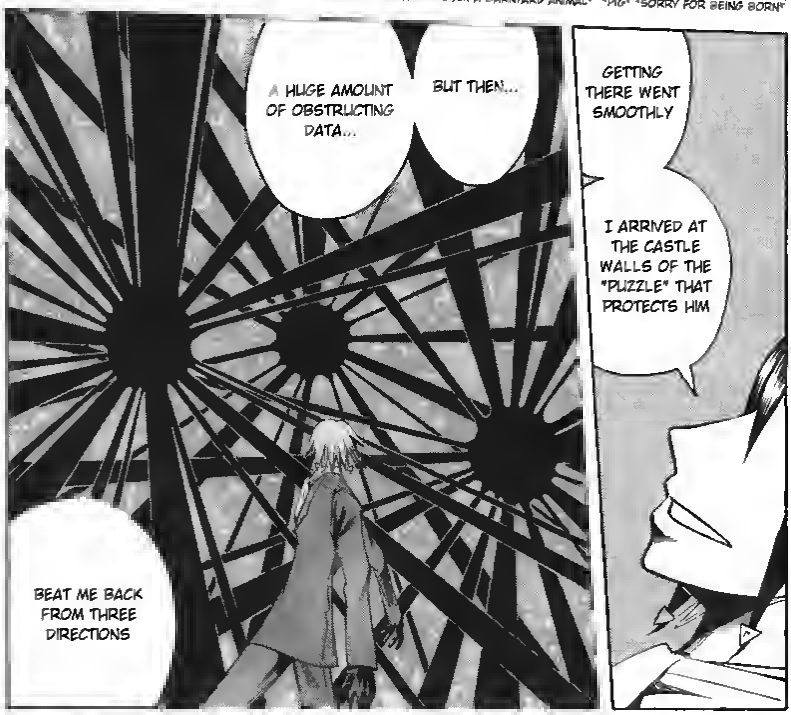
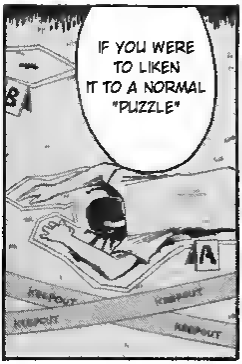
コクン
?

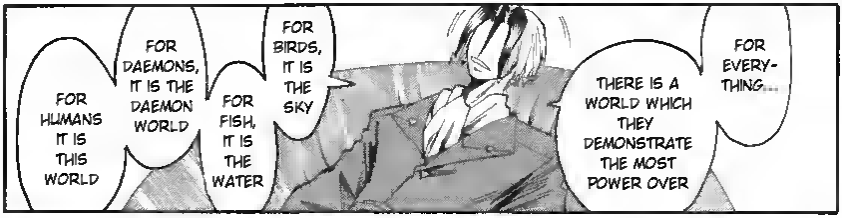
OBSTRUCTION ...?
私は家畜です
豚
TEXT ON YAKO'S FACE "I AM A BARNYARD ANIMAL" "PIG" "SORRY FOR BEING BORN"

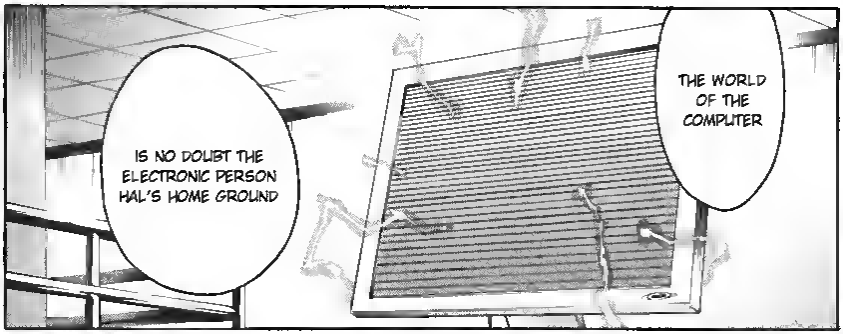

A HUGE AMOUNT OF OBSTRUCTING DATA...
BUT THEN...
BEAT ME BACK FROM THREE DIRECTIONS
GETTING THERE WENT SMOOTHLY
I ARRIVED AT THE CASTLE WALLS OF THE "PUZZLE" THAT PROTECTS HIM


IF YOU WERE TO LIKEN IT TO A NORMAL "PUZZLE"
B
A
KNOCKOUT
KNOCKOUT
KNOCKOUT
KNOCKOUT

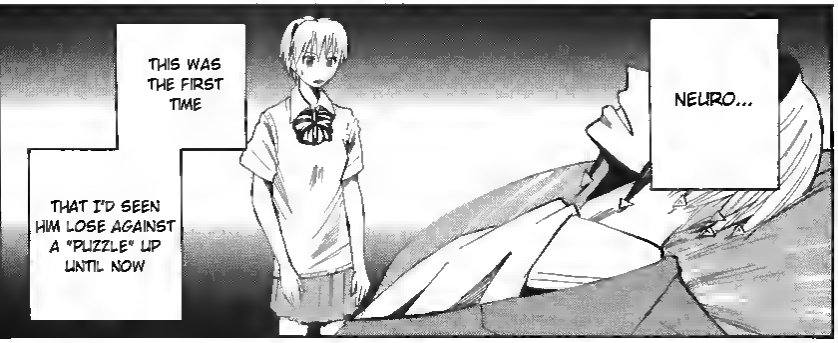
BUT I WAS ONCE AGAIN CRUSHED BY
THAT VAST AMOUNT OF DATA AND POWER
THERE WAS ANOTHER SIMPLE JAMMING ATTACK FROM THE "PUZZLE"

IT IS AS IF THERE ARE THREE WILD DOGS ROAMING THE SCENE OF THE CRIME
THEY GET IN THE WAY ENOUGH THAT...
I CANNOT EVEN REACH THE "PUZZLE"


FOR EVERY-THING...
THERE IS A WORLD WHICH THEY DEMONSTRATE THE MOST POWER OVER
FOR BIRDS, IT IS THE SKY
FOR FISH, IT IS THE WATER
FOR DAEMONS, IT IS THE DAEMON WORLD
FOR HUMANS IT IS THIS WORLD

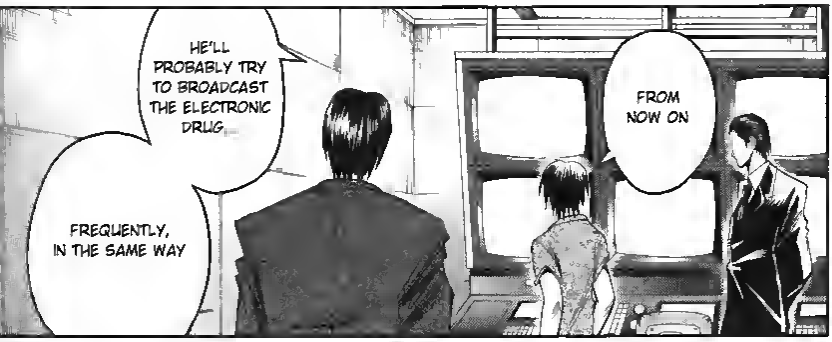

THE WORLD OF THE COMPUTER
IS NO DOUBT THE ELECTRONIC PERSON HAL'S HOME GROUND

ELECTRONIC PERSON... HAL?



CHAPTER 72 策【PLAN】

NEEDLESS TO SAY...
BETWEEN THE SOCCER RIOTS LAST NIGHT
AND THOSE ARRESTED FOR OTHER CRIMES
IT'S A TOTAL OF 16482 PEOPLE
UNPREC-EDENTED
SHIT!!
ドン
HOW-EVER
EVEN THOUGH THAT TV STATION WAS HIJACKED...
HE MANAGED TO AVOID DETECTION BY THE INFORMATION DEPARTMENT I'M IN
HE MUST BE REALLY CONFIDENT BY NOW
"NO MATTER WHAT YOU DO, YOU CAN'T CATCH ME"


HE'LL PROBABLY TRY TO BROADCAST THE ELECTRONIC DRUG
FREQUENTLY, IN THE SAME WAY
FROM NOW ON

BUT THAT IS NOT CORRECT
WE HAD VERY FEW CRIMINALS TO START WITH

PEOPLE ARE SAYING THAT WE'RE SLOW COMPARED TO OTHER COUNTRIES...
.....
IN PREPARING A COUNTER-ATTACK AGAINST THIS COUNTRY'S WORST CRIMINALS

THIS IS SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF, NOT EMBARRASSED ABOUT
THE EMBARRASSMENT IS THAT WE'RE BEING FORCED TO TAKE SUCH DRASTIC COUNTERMEASURES!!

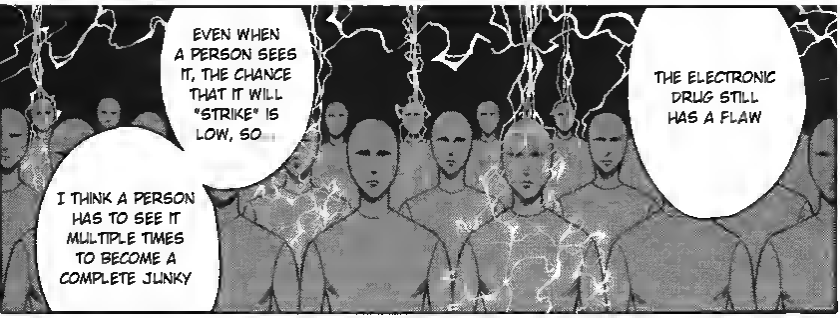
CERTAINLY, THEY'RE ON THE RISE BUT...
FOR THE MAJORITY OF CITIZENS, THE VERY IDEA OF CRIME WOULDN'T EVEN CROSS THEIR MINDS

OFFICERS THAT HAVE TO CARRY HEAVY WEAPONRY...
A CRAZED NATION WITHOUT LAW AND ORDER
IF WE BECOME AFFECTED BY THIS PROGRAM...
OUR COUNTRY WILL END UP LIKE ONE OF THOSE COUNTRIES

WOULD YOU SAY THAT BROADCAST REACHED A HUNDRED MILLION PEOPLE?
WHEN YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT...
AND EVEN INCLUDE THOSE THAT HAVEN'T YET COMMITTED A CRIME...
THE TOTAL NUMBER OF THOSE ARRESTED IS VERY SMALL
WHAT ARE YOU GETTING AT

.....

NO...
WHILE IT IS REALLY TOO BAD, WE DON'T HAVE TO THROW IT ALL AWAY JUST YET


EVEN WHEN A PERSON SEES IT, THE CHANCE THAT IT WILL "STRIKE" IS LOW, SO...
I THINK A PERSON HAS TO SEE IT MULTIPLE TIMES TO BECOME A COMPLETE JUNKY
THE ELECTRONIC DRUG STILL HAS A FLAW

I'LL GIVE IT A TRY
WE GENIUSES— ARE ALWAYS BURNING FOR A CHALLENGE

WE EITHER FIND HARUKAWA AND HIS SUPER-COMPUTER
THE POINT IS, BEFORE THE BRAINWASHING OF A HUNDRED MILLION PEOPLE IS COMPLETE...
OR MAKE UP A SPECIFIC REMEDY FOR THE PROGRAM

.....
SPECIFIC REMEDY...
CAN YOU DO THAT, HIGUCHI

NOTHING'S IMPOSSIBLE
NEURO...
DESPITE USING HIS DAEMON TOOL AT FULL STRENGTH...
HE WASN'T ABLE TO EAT THE "PUZZLE"
WAS WORN-OUT AND SLEEPING
THAT SHOCK...
WAS PROBABLY FAR FROM ORDINARY
...IT WAS PROBABLY THE FIRST TIME HE'D TASTED DEFEAT
そ――？……
...HOLD ON
IF HE'S SLEEPING, I'VE GOT A CHANGE AGAIN TO GET MY REVENGE
I'LL JUST GLUE HIS HEAD TO THE SOFA...

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UWAH
NOW THEN
SHALL I MOVE
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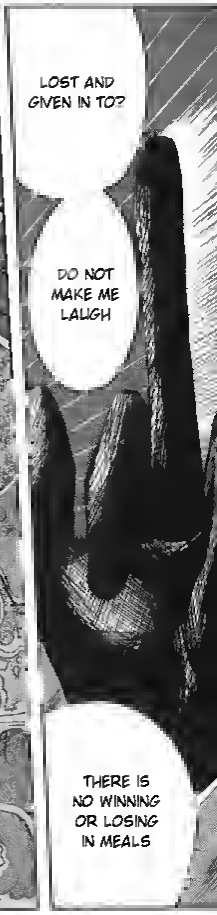
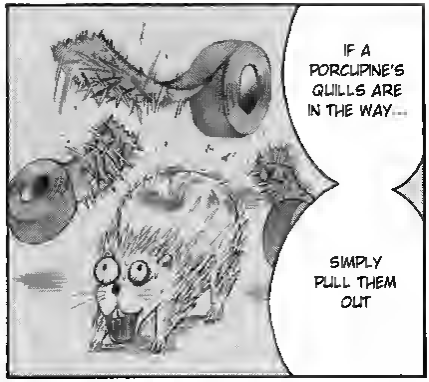
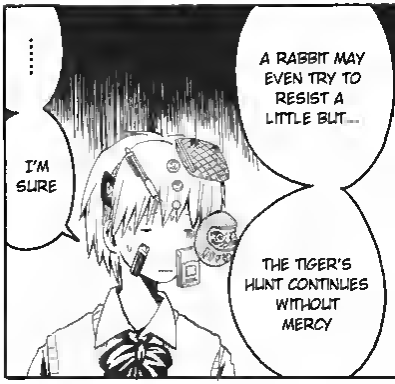
?
!!
I THOUGHT YOU'D LOST AND GIVEN IN TO SLEEP!!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS!!

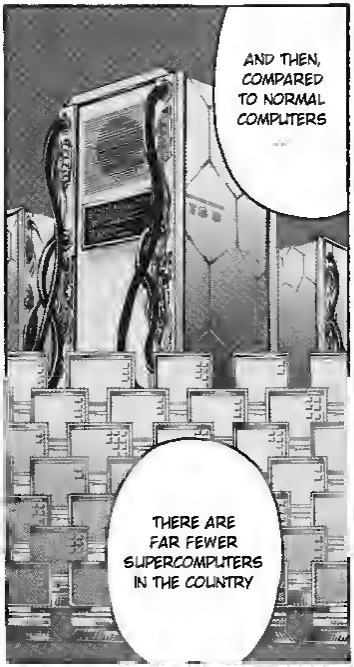
IT IS NOT A MATTER OF WIN OR LOSE
IT IS EAT OR BE EATEN


LOST AND GIVEN IN TO?
DO NOT MAKE ME LAUGH
THERE IS NO WINNING OR LOSING IN MEALS

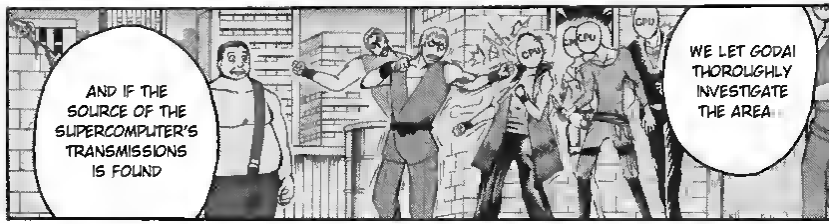

IF A PORCUPINE'S QUILLS ARE IN THE WAY...
SIMPLY PULL THEM OUT


A RABBIT MAY EVEN TRY TO RESIST A LITTLE BUT...
.....
I'M SURE
THE TIGER'S HUNT CONTINUES WITHOUT MERCY

FIRST OF ALL
...YES
CLEARING AWAY THOSE THREE WILD DOGS
PULL OUT...
THE QUILLS...?
TO HAVE SENT THAT AMOUNT, IT IS NECESSARY FOR IT TO HAVE OPERATING CAPABILITIES IN THE TERAFLOPS RANGE
REGULAR PERSONAL COMPUTERS DO NOT COMMAND SUCH POWER
THE OBSTRUCTING DATA...
WAS SENT IN HUGE AMOUNTS FROM THREE DIRECTIONS WITHIN THE COUNTRY
!!
A SUPER-COMPUTER!?
PRECISELY
NORMAL ONES DON'T HAVE...
...WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS


AND THEN, COMPARED TO NORMAL COMPUTERS
THERE ARE FAR FEWER SUPERCOMPUTERS IN THE COUNTRY

THEIR LOCATIONS ARE CAMOUFLAGED TOO. BUT...
GUARDED LIGHTLY IN COMPARISON TO HAL'S MAIN BODY
WE CAN PICK OUT THE GENERAL AREA


AND IF THE SOURCE OF THE SUPERCOMPUTER'S TRANSMISSIONS IS FOUND
CPU
WE LET GODAI THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATE THE AREA

STOPPING THE MACHINE ITSELF WILL SUFFICE
TO DEAL WITH THOSE THREE HINDRANCES THAT HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THE CALORIES OF HAL'S "PUZZLE"

FROM HERE, WE ENTER THE MIDDLE STAGE OF THE BATTLE
WE ARE GOING, YAKO
FOR THIS LARGE A "PUZZLE", IT IS WORTH REPEATING MY MISTAKES AND PROCEDURES
...SIGH
IT'S EASY FOR HIM TO LOOK FORWARD TO
IT'LL BE OKAY
...BUT OH WELL...

OUR MASTER...
HAL
ON THE INTERNET...
EXERTS HIS UNDEFEATABLE POWER
...AND THEN
IN THE REAL WORLD...
OUR JOB
IS TO PROTECT THE FORTRESS HE BUILT
ゴゴゴ

RE-EDUCATION IS DONE, HUH...
THEN, LET'S GET READY FOR BATTLE
ジャキッ
ジャキッ
ジャキッ
BRING IT ON
ASANAGA HIROTO AND HIS GUN CRIME SQUADRON...
ARE THE ONES DEFENDING THE SPHINX SUPPORT PROGRAM

A SPHINX IN YOUR HOME, TOO

THE FUTURE PHYSICS RESEARCH LAB...
THE PLACE THEY HAVE A SUPERCOMPUTER FOR THE SIMULATION OF PHYSICAL MOTION
CHAPTER 73 銃【GUN】

THE PLACE THAT GODAI WAS DIRECTED TO BY HIS SUBORDINATES ...
IT SEEMS AS THOUGH NOBODY FROM THE LIST OF RESEARCHERS HAS BEEN COMING OR GOING

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DISTRIBUTE FREELY UNTIL LICENSED TRANSLATIONS EXIST. ANONYMOUS DOES NOT FORGIVE!

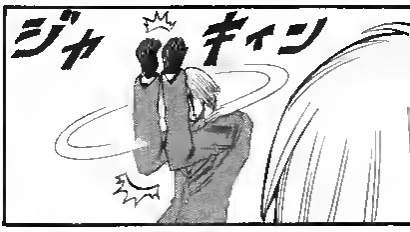
...HOW-EVER
EXACTLY
HARUKAWA'S UNIVERSITY WAS SIMILAR
KNOWING MY STRENGTH...
PERHAPS THEY HAVE MADE THEIR TRAP MORE SOPHISTICATED FOR ME
THEY ARE SETTING A TRAP
PERHAPS EVEN HERE...

TO ME, IT STILL SEEMED HALF TRUE AND HALF A LIE
SO... I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING TO THE POLICE
ABOUT THE REAL CRIMINAL THAT NEURO HAD TALKED ABOUT

THE ONE CALLED ELECTRONIC PERSON HAL
WHO EXISTED AS A PROGRAMMED COPY OF PROFESSOR HARUKAWA
SPREADING THE ELECTRONIC DRUG
SMUGGLING GUNS
...AND THE ONE WHO KILLED PROFESSOR HARUKAWA
I GUESS IT SHOULDN'T BE A SURPRISE THAT THERE CAN BE ELECTRONIC PEOPLE, TOO
...WELL
IF THERE CAN BE DAEMONS
TAKING IT THIS FAR IS A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT THING THAN MY JOB AS AN INVESTIGATOR
.. BUT, NEURO

IF IT TURNS INTO A FIGHT, I CAN'T DO VERY MUCH
I WON'T EVEN OFFER MUCH SUPPORT, PROBABLY JUST GET IN THE WAY

SO...
YOU DON'T REALLY NEED ME, DO YOU?


ジャ
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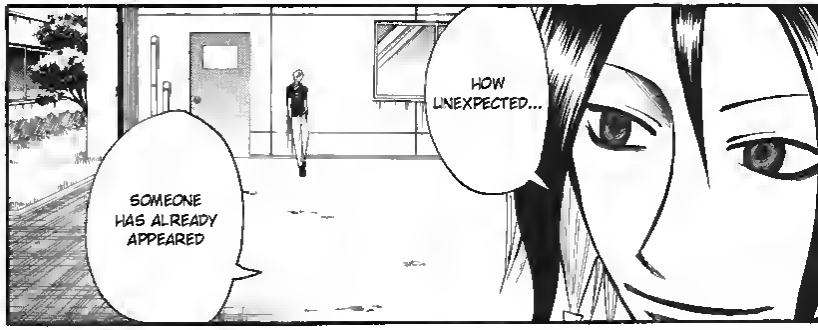
OHO

YOU'RE PLANNING TO USE ME AS A SHIELD IF WORST COMES TO WORST
AH


HOW UNEXPECTED...
SOMEONE HAS ALREADY APPEARED

!!
HEY, WHAT A COINCIDENCE!!
HOOD
...HEH
JUST LIKE YOU TO SHOW UP FOR US
MEETING YOU HERE LIKE THIS
YOU CAN'T RUN FROM US ANYMORE
HAVING COME THIS FAR...
...BUT IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE
チャッ...

KOSHIBA'S DESIRE WAS TO KILL WITH BLUNT OBJECTS...
EXACTLY
BUT WHAT HAL MADE ME REALIZE WAS MY DESIRE TO KILL WITH GUNS
OHO
YOU HAVE A GUN
I'VE LOVED GUNS
FOR A LONG TIME, AND COLLECTED REPLICA GUNS, BUT
PEOPLE LIKE ME ALWAYS HAVE SOMETHING IN MIND
GUNS ARE
BEAUTIFUL, STRONG DEADLY WEAPONS THAT EVERYONE ADMIRES
FROM A PLACE THAT YOUR ENEMY CAN'T REACH
YOU CAN STOP THEIR BREATH AT THE SOURCE
ENJOYMENT, PERSONAL PROTECTION
PEOPLE HAVE THOSE REASONS FOR OWNING GUNS TOO
BUT IN THE END, THERE IS ONLY ONE THING IN MIND

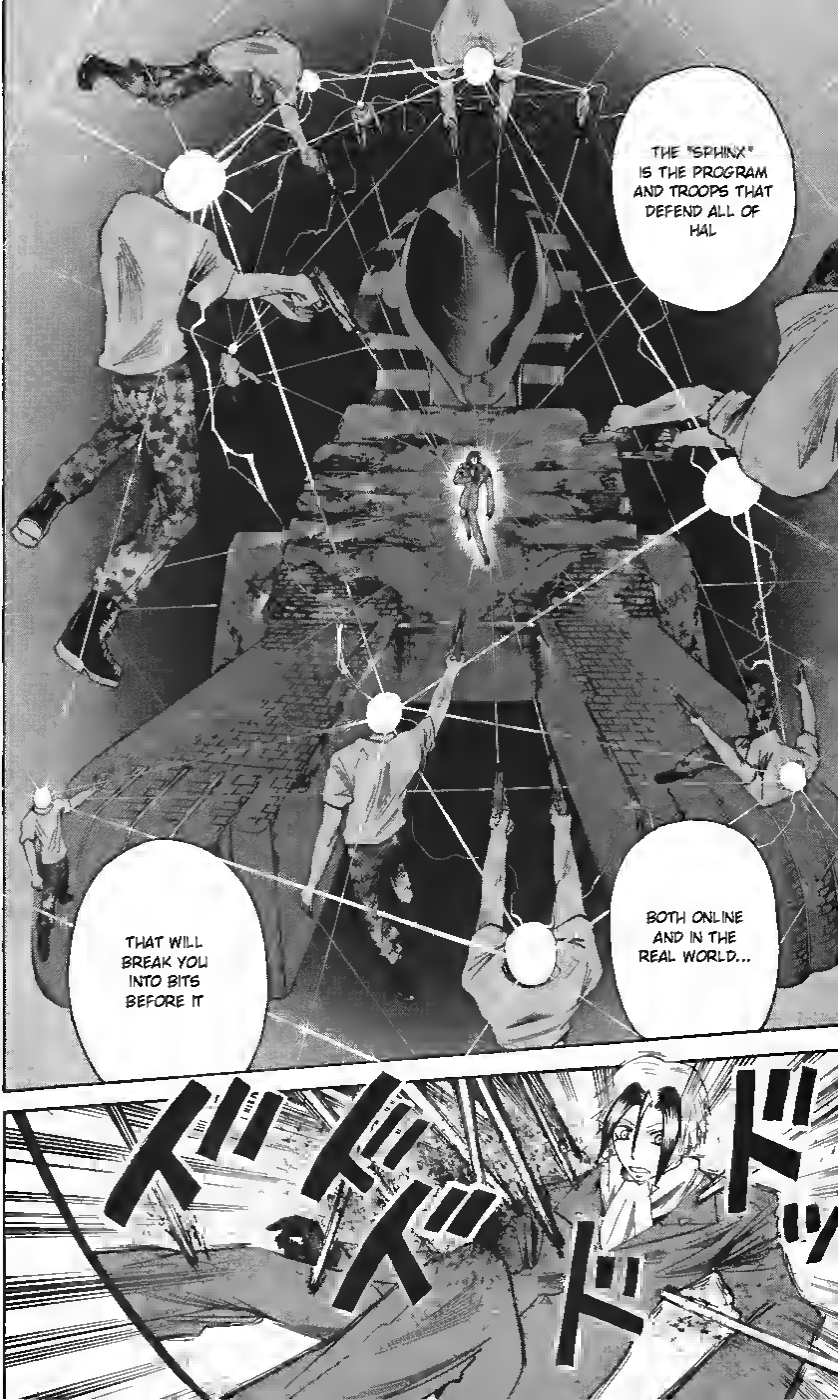
"I WANT TO SHOOT A REAL GUN AT A PERSON"
THIS...
IS THE SINGLE GREATEST CRIMINAL DESIRE IN THE WORLD
I SEE
BECAUSE YOU WERE SUITABLE...
FOR DEFENDING AN IMPORTANT STRONGHOLD
HAL GAVE ME
GUNS AND
SUBORDINATES WITH THE SAME DESIRE
NEURO
...YES
YOU LOOK PRETTY CUTE TODAY
OH YOU~~
YOU WILL BE DEALT WITH BY US AND THE SPHINX'S DEFENSE SYSTEM!!

ドドド

WE CONFIRMED THIS WITH THE DATA WE RECEIVED FROM HAL
YOU... ARE BEYOND THE BOUNDS OF HUMAN LOGIC...
...YOU'LL HAVE TO DIE SOMETIME, RIGHT?
FROM A DISTANT PLACE... WITHOUT EVEN COMING NEAR YOU, EVERYONE WILL JUST SHOOT YOU FULL OF HOLES
BUT THAT'S NOT A PROBLEM
YOU THINK YOU CAN RUN!
IN THE PALM OF THE SPHINX'S HAND!!
YOU'RE ALREADY...
WAH
"
!

ジャキ ジャキッ
ドドド

DISTANCE 87152 MILLIMETERS
IF THE ENEMY'S POSITION AND CONDITION ARE SENT VIA ELECTRONIC SIGNALS
ギギ……
WINDSPEED SOUTHWEST 28 DEGREES AT 2133 MILLIMETERS PER SECOND
ドドド


THE "SPHINX" IS THE PROGRAM AND TROOPS THAT DEFEND ALL OF HAL
BOTH ONLINE AND IN THE REAL WORLD...
THAT WILL BREAK YOU INTO BITS BEFORE IT
ドドド

LOOKS LIKE YOU CAN'T MOVE, PRETTY MUCH
シャコッ
61 DIRECT HITS
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE HAD THIS KIND OF ENEMY
CALMLY AIMING FOR ONLY NELIRO
トッ
...NELIRO ...!!
SURELY, EACH AND EVERY ONE WAS PROFESSOR HARUKAWA'S ...NO
THEY'D EVEN BEEN PROGRAMMED TO ACCOUNT FOR NELIRO'S SURPRISING TOUGHNESS
THEY WERE HAL'S HANDS!!
YOU...
ARE THE ONE THAT HAL IS MOST CAUTIOUS OF IN THE WHOLE WORLD
BE HONORED, NELIRO

SO YOU HAVE THE HIGHEST PRIORITY
WE CAN KILL THE WOMAN WITH ONE SHOT

IF HE KILLS YOU...
OR TO PUT IT THE OTHER WAY AROUND
THERE WON'T BE ANYONE LEFT TO KEEP HAL FROM HIS GOAL

THEN...
GO AHEAD AND SHOOT ME ALL AT ONCE
I AM SURE YOU CAN
ムギュ
PERHAPS THAT WILL BE ENOUGH TO KILL ME
HAL'S CALCULATIONS ARE CORRECT
IF YOUR MASTER ...

EVEN IF IT DOESN'T NEED TO BE SAID
...YES, IN THIS WAY
EVEN THOUGH YOU CAN ANTICIPATE MY COMRADES' SHOTS YOU KNOW IT WILL BE HOPELESS
ドドド

777 Tools of the Daemon World
EVIL REFLECTOR
THAT IS ITS ONLY ABILITY
TO RETURN AN APPROACHING OBJECT AT THE SAME DIRECTION WITH THE SAME SPEED

I WAITED UNTIL YOU ALL SHOT AT ONCE
AND IF I USED IT AGAINST A SINGLE PERSON THE REST WOULD BE WARY...
BECAUSE YOU... SEEM TO HAVE A LARGE-SCALE COMMUNICATION NETWORK
WHA...
YOU ARE THE ONES IN THE PALM OF MY HAND

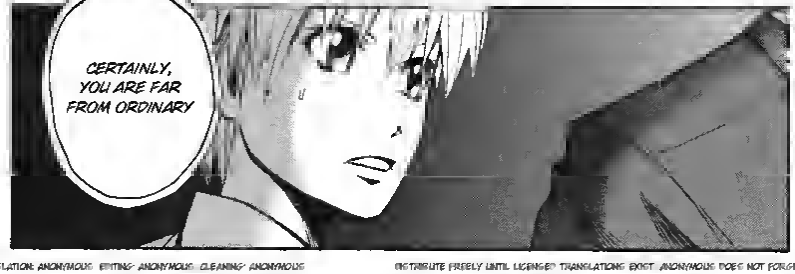
HAL...
ARE YOU WATCHING? HAL...
CAN EVEN DO THAT MUCH
HE...
ドサ
ドサ
ドサ
GAH...
UPGRADED...
THE OTHER TWO SPHINXES...
ドッ...
LITTLE BY LITTLE WAS STUDYING NEURO'S DAEMONIC ABILITIES
ELEC-TRONIC PERSON HAL...
NEED... TO BE UPGRADED

NOW THEN...
SHALL WE GO DESTROY THE COMPUTER THAT COMMANDS THEM
MY WORRIES ABOUT NEURO'S INJURIES WERE PILING UP
シュナヴ うウう
COULD HE REACH A LEVEL THAT COULD KILL EVEN NEURO...?
EVEN IN THE REAL WORLD, HAL WAS BUILDING UP HIS COUNTERATTACKS AND EVOLVING
...WE HAVE TO HURRY!!
BEFORE HAL'S DEFENCES ARE COMPLETE!!

Q: WHO IS THE FAIREST ONE OF ALL?

A: PROBABLY THE KOUSHIEN BASEBALL TEAM, I WOULD SAY

CHAPTER 74 刺【STAB】



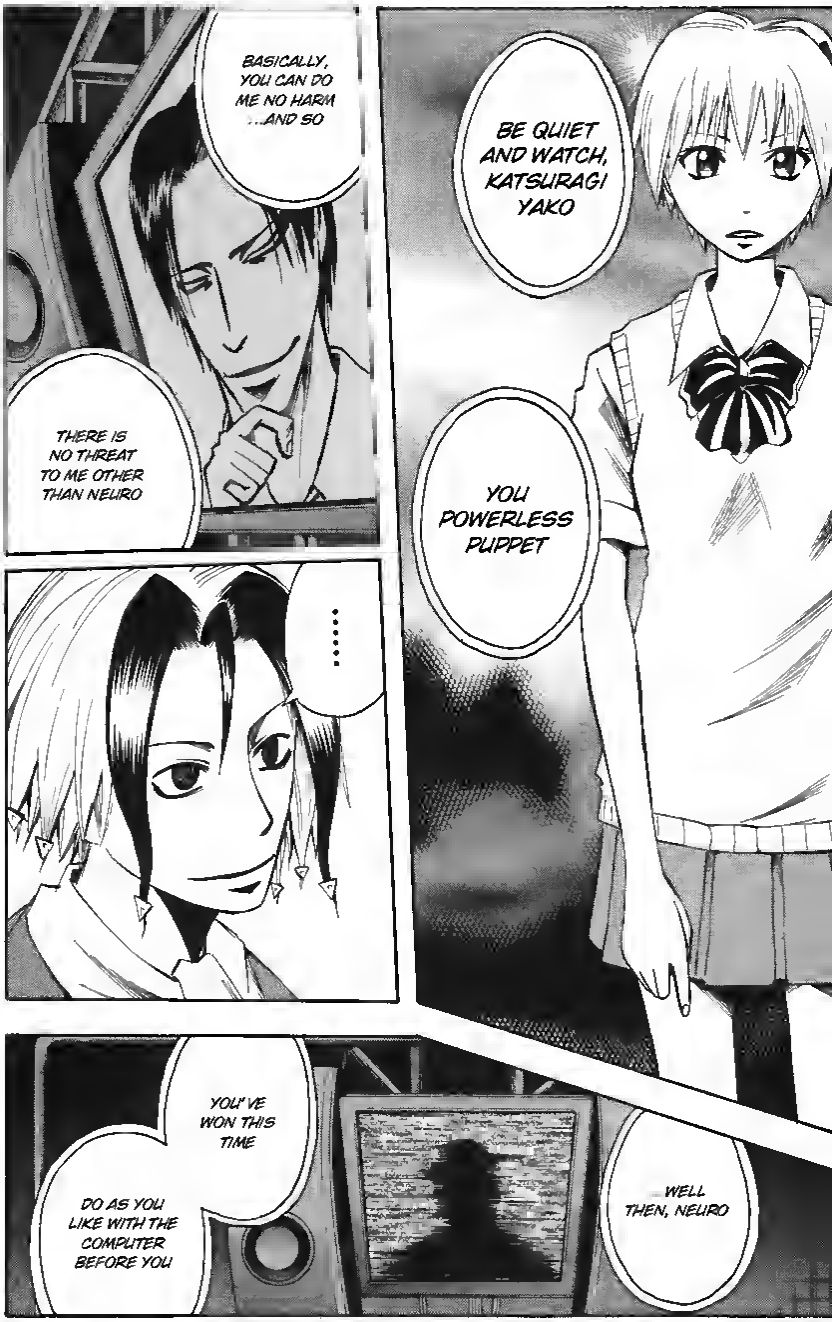
TRANSLATION: ANONYMOUS EDITING: ANONYMOUS CLEANING: ANONYMOUS
DISTRIBUTE FREELY UNTIL LICENSED TRANSLATIONS EXIST. ANONYMOUS DOES NOT FORGIVE!

WHAT ARE YOU, NEURO?
AND WHY ARE YOU ATTACKING ME?
THERE'S ONE THING I WANT TO ASK YOU
AND SO
YOU SIMPLY HAVE TO DESTROY THIS COMPUTER BUT
AS YOU CAN SEE, I AM AN INHABITANT OF THE DAEMON WORLD... A DAEMON
WHEN I DESTROY AND DEVOUR THE "PUZZLE" OF DATA THAT PROTECTS YOU
MY HUNGER WILL BE SATIATED
MY FOOD IS THE "PUZZLE", THE LABYRINTH THAT PROTECTS A PERSON'S EVIL INTENT
I SEE
A DAEMON
.....

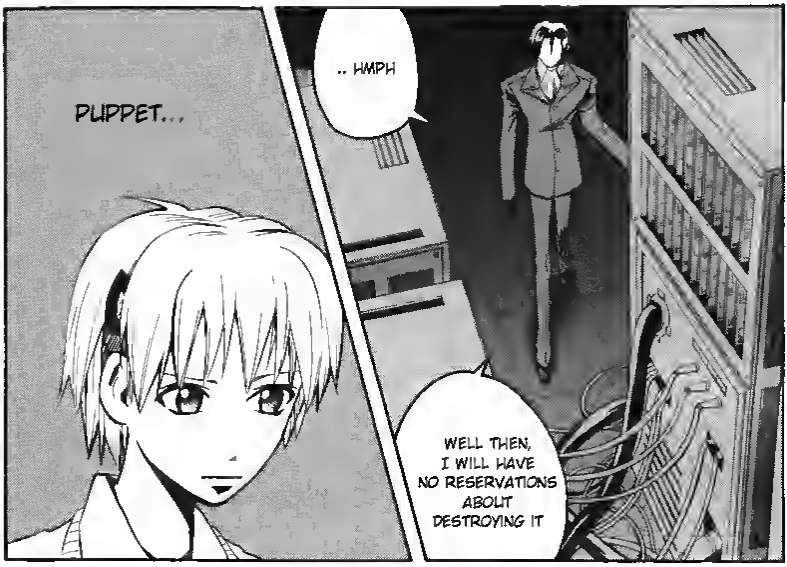
AND WILL PERHAPS BE ELIMINATED
MY PROGRAM LOSES ALL DEFENSIVE POWER...
AND THEN, IF YOU ATTAIN YOUR GOAL
NUMEROUS SUPERHUMAN POWERS...
THIS EXPLAINS IT ALL
.....
THE REMAINING "SPHINXES"...
WILL HAVE TO INTERCEPT AND KILL YOU WITH THEIR FULL POWER
BUT NATURALLY, I CANNOT ACCEPT THAT

YOU KILLED...
THE MAN WHO BROUGHT YOU TO LIFE, PROFESSOR HARUKAWA
AND YOU'RE CONTROLLING A HUGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE, HURTING A HUGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE ..
WHAT'S... YOUR MOTIVATION?
I CAN'T SEE HIM AS SOMEONE WHO WOULD GO THIS FAR
HAD HIS UNPLEASANT POINTS, BUT...
THE PROFESSOR HARUKAWA THAT WE MET AT THE RYOKAN
HEH HEH HEH
THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE COMPLETELY WRONG, KATSURAGI YAKO
THE PERSON WHO PUT YOU INTO A COMPUTER...
IT'S NOT... HARUKAWA, HAL
WOULDN'T WANT THESE KINDS OF THING TO HAPPEN, WOULD HE?

LIFE
I CAN TELL YOU THAT HARUKAWA'S GOALS AND MINE ARE THE SAME
LIFE. EVEN IF IT IS IN THE WORLD BETWEEN ONE AND ZERO
.....?
HEH HEH HEH
YOU WOULDN'T UNDER-STAND
...AND SO
BUT....
WHAT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR HIM IS POSSIBLE FOR ME
I SIMPLY PUT HIM TO REST
BEFORE HE DESPAIRED, KNOWING THAT
IF WE COULD NOT ATTAIN THIS GOAL....
IT WOULD BE THE SAME AS BEING DEAD, TO US


BASICALLY, YOU CAN DO ME NO HARM ...AND SO
THERE IS NO THREAT TO ME OTHER THAN NEURO
BE QUIET AND WATCH, KATSURAGI YAKO
YOU POWERLESS PUPPET
.....
YOU'VE WON THIS TIME
DO AS YOU LIKE WITH THE COMPUTER BEFORE YOU
...WELL THEN, NEURO

フッ…
WON'T BE SO EASY
BUT THE NEXT "SPHINX"

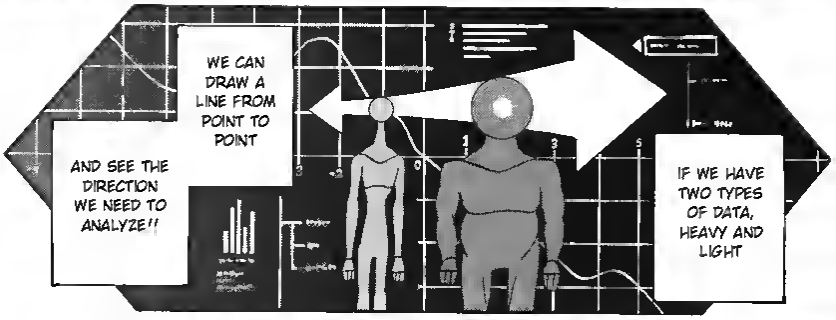

PUPPET...
.. HMPH
WELL THEN, I WILL HAVE NO RESERVATIONS ABOUT DESTROYING IT

スポ
...NEURO
DO NOT WORRY, YAKO
YOU TOO ARE CAPABLE OF DESTROYING IT

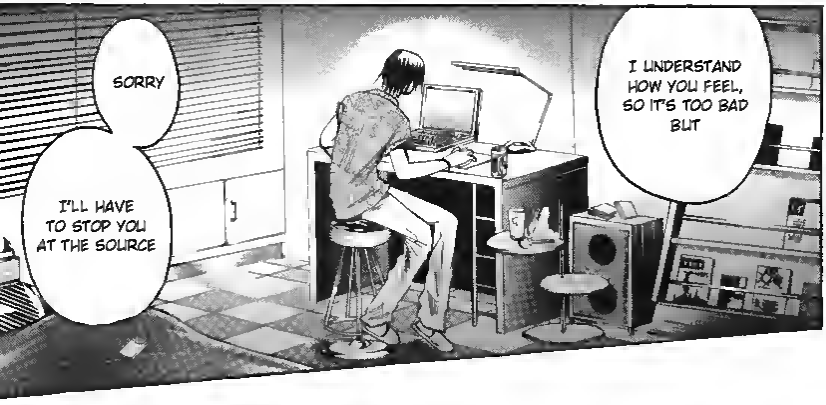
YOU CAN BE THE HAMMER
GYAAAAAAAA NONONONO!!
WHY AM I AROUND...
WHY...

THE ELECTRONIC DRUG...
MATCHES THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE TARGET AND EXISTS IN SEVERAL FORMS
ADVANCING STEP BY STEP...
IN THE INITIAL STAGE, PLEASURE AND CRIMINAL DESIRES EMERGE
IT RESULTS IN BRAINWASHING IN ACCORDANCE WITH HARUKAWA'S WISHES
THE NIGHT THE SOCCER BROADCAST WAS HIJACKED
THE ELECTRONIC DRUG AIMED AT THE SERIOUS JUNKIES BUT
UNTIL NOW, ALL WE HAD GOTTEN WAS
THE CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGED!!

OF THE ELECTRONIC DRUG AIMED AT BEGINNERS
WE GOT A HUGE AMOUNT
PEOPLE THAT HAD ONLY SEEN IT ONCE!!

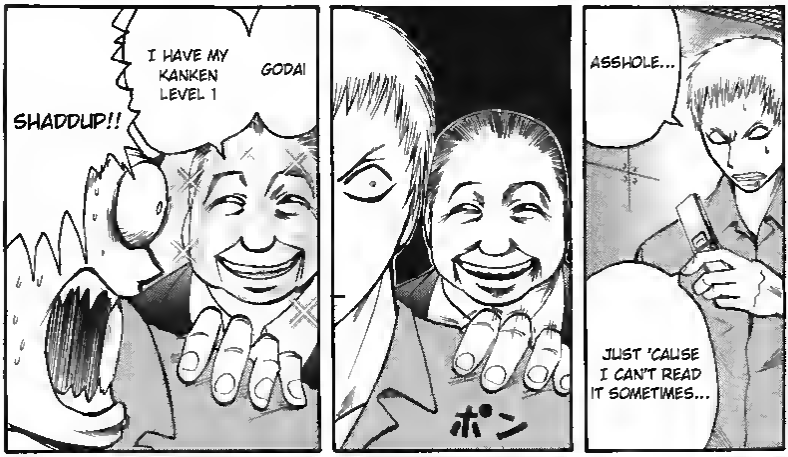

WE CAN DRAW A LINE FROM POINT TO POINT
AND SEE THE DIRECTION WE NEED TO ANALYZE!!
IF WE HAVE TWO TYPES OF DATA, HEAVY AND LIGHT

MAYBE YOU WANTED TO SEE IT SOON?
YOUR WORLD FULL OF CRIMINALS
BUT THAT IMPATIENCE...
IS YOUR DOWNFALL
I KNOW, HARUKAWA...
YOU WERE IN A HURRY AND IMPATIENT

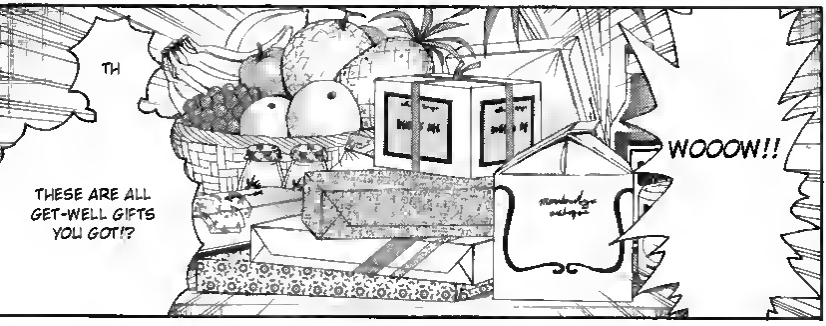

SORRY
I'LL HAVE TO STOP YOU AT THE SOURCE
I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL, SO IT'S TOO BAD BUT

THERE'S A SUSPICIOUS FACILITY IN THAT AREA
... YEAH
IF IT WAS AN ORDINARY ONE, NO WAY THEY WOULD HAVE PLACED THOSE KINDS OF ORDERS
AND RECORDS OF ALL KINDS OF MATERIALS BEING DELIVERED
NOW THEN, GODAI
YOU ARE CERTAIN ABOUT THE NEXT ONE?

SORRY
I FORGOT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO READ KANJI WITH MORE THAN TWO STROKES
(CLICK)
LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE RESEARCHING SOMETHING WITH KINDA HARD TO READ KANJI BUT
I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS, MYSELF
AND THE AIM OF THE FACILITY?
...UM
HOW DO I READ THIS?

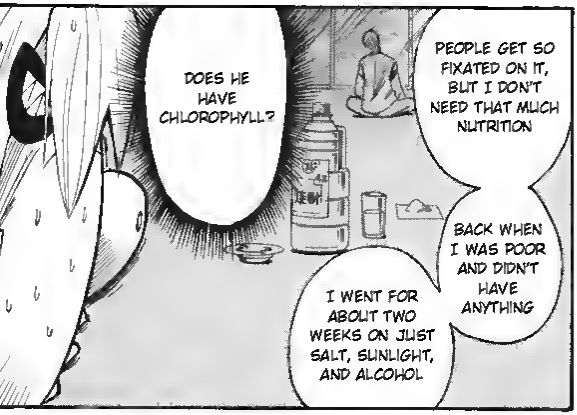


KANKEN. JAPANESE KANJI APTITUDE TEST. LEVEL ONE IS THE HIGHEST RANK


TH
THESE ARE ALL GET-WELL GIFTS YOU GOT!?
WOOOW!!

YOU CAN TAKE THEM
YOU'LL EAT THEM, RIGHT?
OF COURSE!!
I FEEL SORT OF BAD ABOUT TAKING SUCH POPULAR FOOD FROM YOU!!

IT WAS NICE OF MY COLLEAGUES TO BRING THEM FOR ME BUT...
NN...
THEY TAKE UP SO MUCH SPACE, AND I CAN'T EAT IT ALL

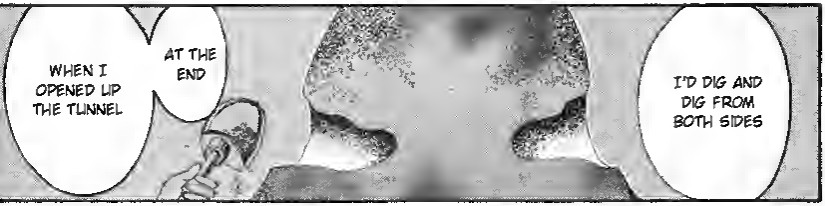

DOES HE HAVE CHLOROPHYLL?
PEOPLE GET SO FIXATED ON IT, BUT I DON'T NEED THAT MUCH NUTRITION
BACK WHEN I WAS POOR AND DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING
I WENT FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS ON JUST SALT, SUNLIGHT, AND ALCOHOL

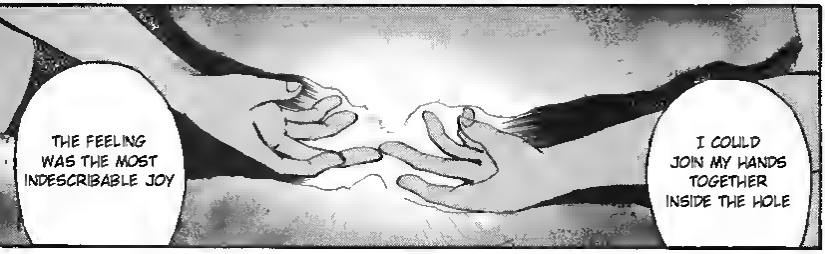
BUT WILL IT BE OKAY?
YOU COULD USE THE NUTRITION
IT'S FINE

IT WAS BAD OF ME TO CALL YOU OUT HERE FOR SUCH A SILLY THING
HOW'S YOUR INVESTIGATION GOING?
……
THOUGH IN THE CASE OF THE ELECTRONIC DRUG…
IT LOOKS LIKE YOU HAVEN'T LEARNED YOUR LESSON AND ARE STICKING YOUR HEAD INTO IT
NO, NOT REALLY
I LEFT WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING TO NEURO
?
HE DIDN'T COME TO GET ME…
MAYBE HE WENT TO SEARCH FOR THE REMAINING "SPHINXES" ALONE
WHAT HAL SAID WAS RIGHT

IF IT'S POSSIBLE FOR NEURO TO SOLVE IT, HE CAN DO IT
IF IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR NEURO TO SOLVE IT, HE CAN'T DO IT
...THAT'S THE KIND OF CASE IT IS
...WELCOME, NEURO
IF YOU CAN MAKE IT TO THE DOOR BEHIND ME...
YOU WILL BE IN FRONT OF THE "SPHINX" HERE ...FUFUFU

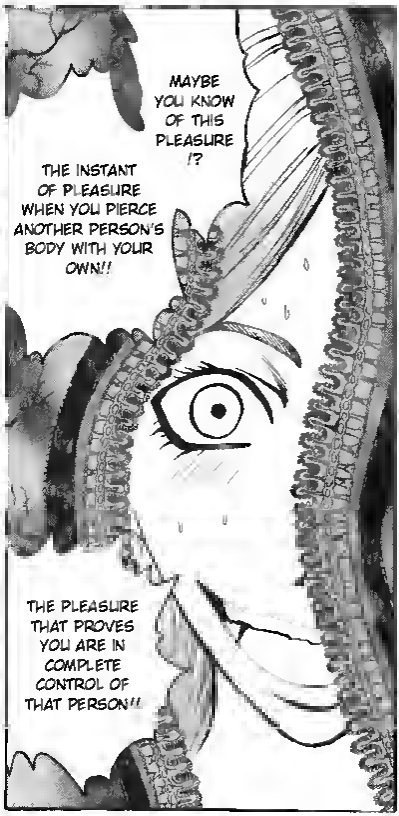
THEY'VE SEALED OFF THE EXIT SO YOU CAN'T ESCAPE
RIGHT NOW, BEHIND YOU...
...OHO
THERE ARE NO GUARDS?
I THOUGHT THEY WOULD BE OUT IN FULL FORCE
I WILL BE ENOUGH...
TO KILL YOU
...EVER SINCE I WAS A CHILD...
I LOVED PLAYING IN THE SANDBOX
I'D DIG TUNNELS IN MOUNTAINS OF SAND
...OHO


WHEN I OPENED UP THE TUNNEL
AT THE END
I'D DIG AND DIG FROM BOTH SIDES

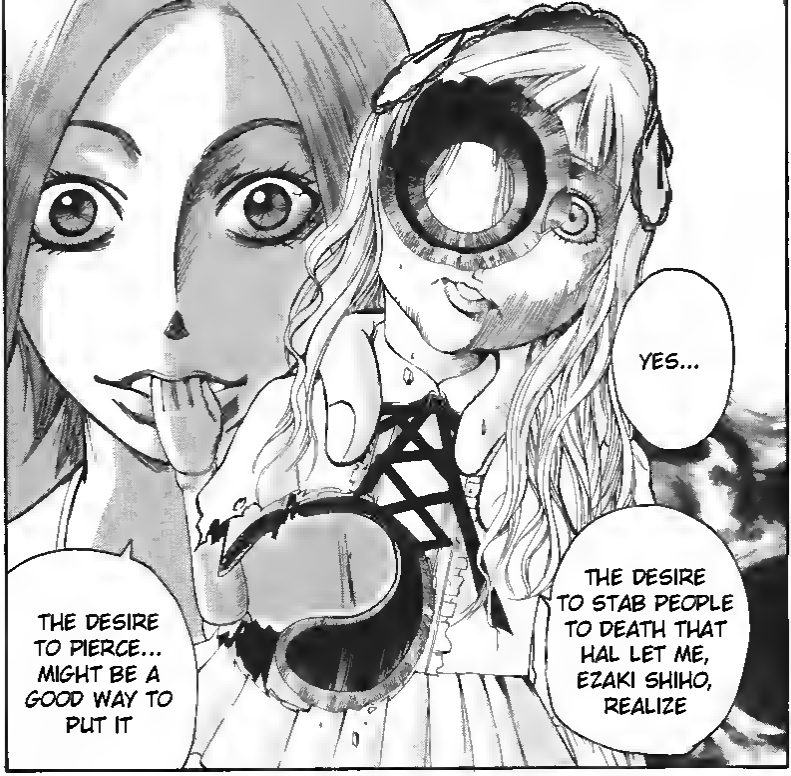

THE FEELING WAS THE MOST INDESCRIBABLE JOY
I COULD JOIN MY HANDS TOGETHER INSIDE THE HOLE

.....

IT WAS THE SAME EVEN WITH THE REMAINS OF PROFESSOR HARUKAWA, WHO I STABBED
IT WAS THE SAME AS THE SANDBOX
AND THEN!!

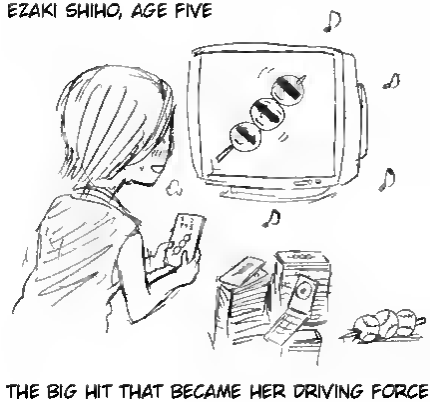

MAYBE YOU KNOW OF THIS PLEASURE !?
THE INSTANT OF PLEASURE WHEN YOU PIERCE ANOTHER PERSON'S BODY WITH YOUR OWN!!
THE PLEASURE THAT PROVES YOU ARE IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF THAT PERSON!!

I LIKED PROFESSOR HARUKAWA, BUT
I LIKE THE KIND OF EXCITEMENT HAL AWAKENED IN ME MORE
IT WAS UNBELIEVABLY STIMULATING
スウ
AND SO
TO PROTECT HAL...
I WILL KILL YOU WITH MY DESIRE!!


YES...
THE DESIRE TO STAB PEOPLE TO DEATH THAT HAL LET ME, EZAKI SHIHO, REALIZE
THE DESIRE TO PIERCE... MIGHT BE A GOOD WAY TO PUT IT

HEY, NEURO...
LET ME PLAY
IN THE SANDBOX OF YOUR CORPSE, TOO?

EZAKI SHIHO, AGE FIVE



THE BIG HIT THAT BECAME HER DRIVING FORCE

THE DATA FROM YOUR BATTLE WITH ASANAGA TOO
OF COURSE ...
WITH THAT AS THE BASIS
WE ARE COLLECTING ALL THE DATA ON YOUR ABILITIES
ガシャ
CHAPTER 75
返【RETURN】
AND ALSO TO GRANT MY DESIRE TO PIERCE THINGS
AND FOR ME TO KILL YOU
IN ORDER TO SURPASS YOUR ABILITIES...
パアッ
AT THE STAGE THAT HAL BUILT FOR YOU
LOOK, NEURO

TRANSLATION ANONYMOUS, EDITING/CLEANING ANONYMOUS DISTRIBUTE FREELY UNTIL LISCENSED TRANSLATIONS EXIST ANONYMOUS DOES NOT FORGIVE!

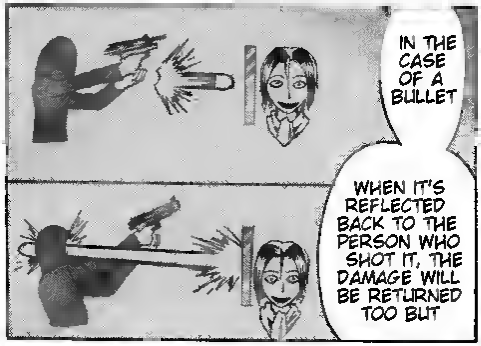
CHAPTER 75 返【RETURN】

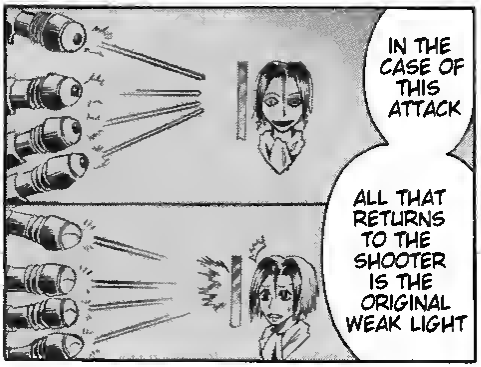
LIKE THE WHOLE HEAVENS FILLED WITH STARS...
THE BARRELS OF A THOUSAND LASERS POINTED AT YOU

WHAT DO YOU THINK ...?
AMAZING, ISN'T IT

THIS FACILITY IS AN OPTICAL INSTRUMENTS RESEARCH LAB
THE SUPER-COMPUTER HERE...
IS TO DO CALCULATIONS RELATED TO THE CALORIMETRICS AND DESIGN OF CONVERGING LASERS
HAL INSTALLED
THIS "SPHINX" PROGRAM THAT PROTECTS ITSELF
AND CONVERTED THE FACILITY TO BE ABLE TO INVEST IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF STRONG LASERS

AAH... THAT'S THE BEST...
OPENING UP A LOVELY HOLE IN YOU, NEURO...


IN THE CASE OF A BULLET
WHEN IT'S REFLECTED BACK TO THE PERSON WHO SHOT IT, THE DAMAGE WILL BE RETURNED TOO BUT


IN THE CASE OF THIS ATTACK
ALL THAT RETURNS TO THE SHOOTER IS THE ORIGINAL WEAK LIGHT

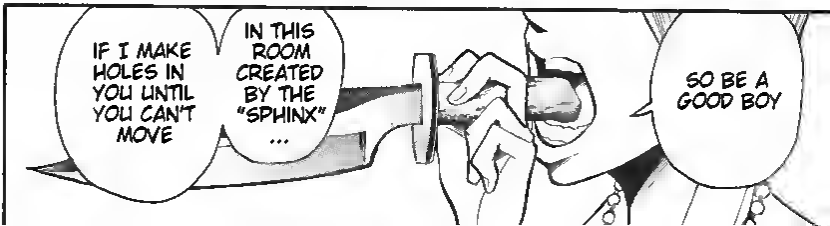
EACH INDIVIDUAL LASER IS VERY WEAK
THE STRANGE MIRROR YOU USED ON ASANAGA WON'T WORK ANYMORE
BUT I'VE DEMONSTRATED ITS ABILITY TO PIERCE WHEN THEY'RE BUNDLED TOGETHER AT A FOCAL PONT

ニヤ
OF COURSE
AND CONTROLLING THOSE LASERS IS...
YOUR RIGHT HAND
A SYNCHRONIZED ATTACK BETWEEN HUMAN AND COMPUTER...
HAS BEEN PROVEN TO BE EFFECTIVE ENOUGH AGAINST YOU
I CAN FREELY CONTROL THE LASERS
AS SOON AS I MOVE MY FINGERS
ス
スッ

AND THEN
WHEN I TURN MY PALM UP...
THE LASERS IN THIS ROOM
WILL FIRE EVERYWHERE EXCEPT AT ME

AT THAT TIME, AS MY NEXT HAND...
ALL OF MY COMRADES OUTSIDE WILL COME IN TO HELP

AH
IT'LL BE HOPELESS TO EVEN TRY TO BRING ME DOWN
THE SENSOR WORKS AS SOON AS I TOUCH IT

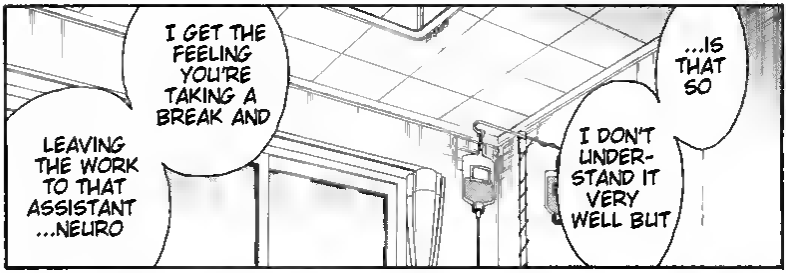

IF I MAKE HOLES IN YOU UNTIL YOU CAN'T MOVE
IN THIS ROOM CREATED BY THE "SPHINX" ...
SO BE A GOOD BOY

I'LL DO THE FINAL PIERCING CEREMONY...
FOR YOU MYSELF
HMMM
...WHAT?
THE PERSON LEADING THE COUNTER-ATTACK CHATTERING ABOUT IT...
MAKES IT UNNECESSARILY EASY TO FIGURE OUT IN THE REAL WORLD
AFTER ALL, THAT'S THE LIMITATION OF A COMPUTER
I HAVE NO NEED TO BRING OUT THE DAEMON WORLD TOOLS
ONE FINGER'S WORTH OF DAEMONIC POWER IS ENOUGH

...WHAT ...!?
MY HAND...
I CAN'T MOVE IT...
ピタ..
...HUH ...
YOU SAID THE COMPUTER WAS OVER THERE, DIDN'T YOU
...!!
IF SO, I SHALL SIMPLY LEAVE
チョン

ドン
ダダダダダ
MISS EZAKI HAS MADE CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY...
INITIATE TRANSITON TO PROGRAM II
ダ
IF THEY COME IN NOW...
N-NO...
THANK YOU, TRULY
NOW THEN, DO AS I ASKED
IF YOU TURN YOUR PALM UP...
...WELL THEN, SURELY...
YOU'LL DEAL WITH ALL OF THEM BUT YOURSELF INSIDE THE ROOM FOR ME

ハ
クリルッ
ズバッバッバッバッ
バ・ムバンバッ
GOOD WORK
NOW THEN...
I SUPPOSE I SHALL GO QUICKLY TO DESTROY THE COMPUTER


I GET THE FEELING YOU'RE TAKING A BREAK AND
LEAVING THE WORK TO THAT ASSISTANT ...NEURO
...IS THAT SO
I DON'T UNDER-STAND IT VERY WELL BUT

SINCE IT SEEMS LIKE...
THE POLICE AND HIGUCHI ARE DRAWING UP SOME COUNTER-MEASURES AGAINST THE ELECTRONIC DRUG
MAYBE SOMETHING WILL GET DONE ABOUT IT SOON

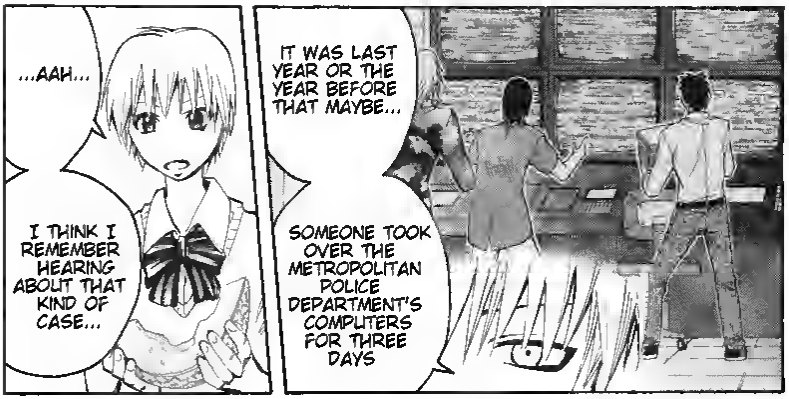
... WELL THAT'S OKAY ISN'T IT?
... AAH ... WELL

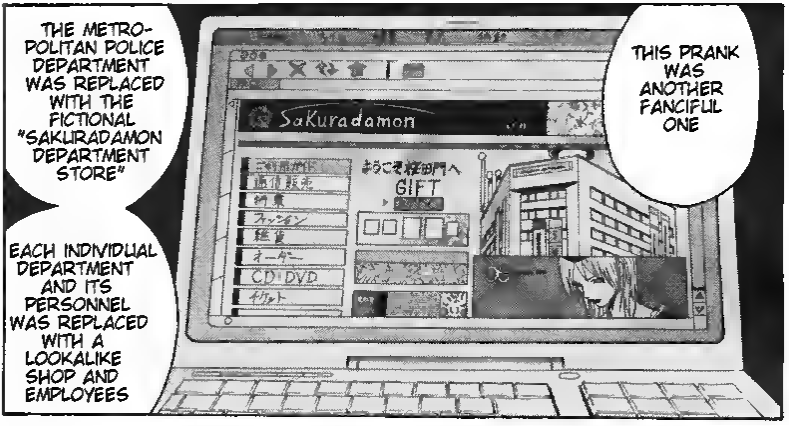
WHAT'S THE STORY BEHIND HIM GETTING INTO THE POLICE FORCE?
ABOUT MR. HIGUCHI ...
THAT YOUNG ...
IT SEEMS LIKE MR. USUI HAS A FAIR BIT OF TRUST IN HIM BUT...

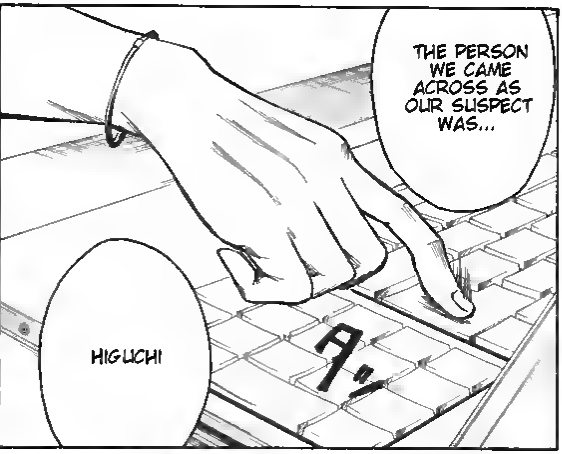
... AAH

SPEAK-ING OF WHICH ...

A LOT OF THINGS HAPPENED
WELL...
HAL...
IT'S NO GOOD...
CAN'T BE KILLED WITH THIS HALF-FINISHED TECHNO-LOGY...!!
HE...
シュウウウ
ガクッ
MY ORDERS ...
HAL, PLEASE LEND ME YOUR BRAINPOWER!!
GIVE ME THE NEXT ORDER!!
HURRY...


...AAH...
I THINK I REMEMBER HEARING ABOUT THAT KIND OF CASE...
IT WAS LAST YEAR OR THE YEAR BEFORE THAT MAYBE...
SOMEONE TOOK OVER THE METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT'S COMPUTERS FOR THREE DAYS


THE METRO-POLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT WAS REPLACED WITH THE FICTIONAL "SAKURADAMON DEPARTMENT STORE"
EACH INDIVIDUAL DEPARTMENT AND ITS PERSONNEL WAS REPLACED WITH A LOOKALIKE SHOP AND EMPLOYEES
THIS PRANK WAS ANOTHER FANCIFUL ONE
SaKuradamon
GIFT
CD・DVD


THE PERSON WE CAME ACROSS AS OUR SUSPECT WAS...
HIGUCHI

THE INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT WAS THE FUNDOSHI SHOP
ISHIGAKI WAS MAD THAT HE WAS THE "FUNDOSHI SOMMELIER" IF I REMEMBER RIGHT

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THE PEOPLE CONTROLLED BY THE ELECTRONIC DRUG...
THE NEXT TIME THEY ACCESS THE DRUG AS ONE...
WE'LL BE CERTAIN OF THE TIME THEY "WORSHIP" TOO
ヒュン
THE JUNKIES HELD BY THE POLICE...
AIMING FOR THE MOMENT THEY ACCESS THEIR INDIVIDUAL STAGE OF THE DRUG
INSTEAD, I'LL HACK INTO THE PAGE THEY'RE GOING TO
INSTEAD OF THE DRUG
TO BROADCAST A VACCINE I CREATED...
ビーイイイイーン

SINCE HE WAS A CHILD, HE'D BEEN SUSPECTED OF HACKING WHO KNOWS HOW MANY TIMES
BUT IT HAD ALL BEEN SHADY AND WITHOUT PROOF

EVENTUALLY THE METRO-POLITAN POLICE DEPART-MENT...
PERMITTED INVASION BY THE HACKER AT AN UNPRE-CEDENTED SCALE...
UNTIL HE COULDN'T ESCAPE ANYMORE

THE PERSON WITH THE SUPERIOR INVASION TECHNIQUES
TOGETHER WITH A BURGLAR, WELL
WHEN A FIRST-CLASS-HACKER GETS OUT OF JAIL...
MAYBE YOU KNOW ABOUT IT?
COMPANIES FIGHT OVER WHO GETS TO TAKE HIM
...!?
WHEN SUPERIOR DEFENSE TECHNIQUES ARE KNOWN BY HIM
SEES IT FROM THE POINT OF A CRIMINAL, MAKING INVASION DIFFICULT...
OF COURSE, THE GOAL INCLUDED BEING ABLE TO KEEP A CLOSE EYE ON HIM TOO
AND THE ONE ASSIGNED TO LOOK AFTER HIM WAS MR. USUI
THEY DELAYED AND DELAYED BRINGING OUT THEIR COMPUTER CRIME COUNTERATTACK TRUMP CARD
THE POLICE THOUGHT THE SAME WAY
BUT DID NOT HESITATE TO EMPLOY HIM

AFTER IT GOES IN...
NOT JUST THE CHANCE OF ARRESTING THE INTERNET CRIMINALS
BUT ALSO SECURITY CAPABILITIES OF THE GOVERN-MENT'S COMPUTERS...
JUMPS UP SEVERAL TIMES
...
YOU MAY HATE WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE, USUI, BUT
WE'RE CONFIRMING HIS TRUE POWER
ARE THEY CURED NOW?
COM-PLETELY?
NOT COM-PLETELY
BECAUSE I HAVE THE FEELING THE ELECTRONIC DRUG FORCIBLY REVIVES ITSELF...
IT'S TOO GREAT A BURDEN TO THE BRAIN TO FIX IT ALL AT ONCE
ドサ
カサ
シャッ

THE RETURN TO NORMAL WILL BE MOSTLY AUTOMATIC FOR ALL THE PATIENTS
IF YOU GIVE IT SOME TIME...
BUT
AFTER THE NEXT ONE, THIS VACCINE WILL PULL THE INFECTED PERSON'S BRAIN AWAY IN ONE JUMP
HIGUCHI YUUYA
HE IS, WITHOUT A DOUBT, A GENIUS TOO
THE RINGLEADER IN THIS CASE, THAT GUY CALLED HARUKAWA...
GOT PRAISED BY EVERYONE AS A GENIUS BUT
I'M THE SAME
I JUST DON'T HAVE ANYBODY GIVING ME USELESS PRAISE
ドン!

ONLY RED IS THOUGHT HIGHLY OF
WHITE IS GOOD BUT
IT IS UNFAIR
FOR US TO FORGET
ABOUT THE TRENDS

CHAPTER 76

返【RETURN】

NOT THE SECOND SPHINX BEING DESTROYED...
SOMETHING HAPPENED!!
SOMEONE HACKED INTO THE BRAINWASHING PROGRAM!!

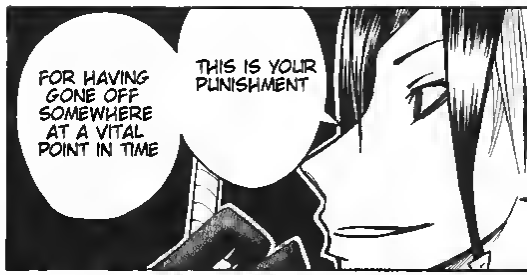
THE SOLDIERS THAT YOU BRAINWASHED YOURSELF...
ARE GRADUALLY BEING RELEASED FROM YOUR CONTROL

I ANALYZED THE ELECTRONIC DRUG YOU MADE...
AND JUST REVERSE-ENGINEERED IT AND HANDED IT BACK

JUST GIVE UP
HARUKAWA
AND NEXT...
THE POLICE JUST HAVE TO SEARCH FOR YOU

THE NUMBER OF CRIMINALS THAT HAD INCREASED SHARPLY AFTER THE SOCCER BROADCAST...
HAS TAKEN A SHARP DIVE SINCE YESTERDAY!!
ACCORDING TO THE POLICE'S PRESENTATION
THE WORK THEY PUT INTO A COUNTER-PROGRAM FOR THE ELECTRONIC DRUG
HAS BEEN GREATLY EFFECTIVE...
HELP ME--!!
GASOLINE
NOW NOW
IF YOU DON'T WORK HARD TO KEEP YOUR HEAD UP, YOU WILL SET THE GASOLINE ON FIRE
DO NOT BE WASTEFUL WITH THAT EXPENSIVE GASOLINE
MY LIFE IS GOING TO GO TO WASTE!!

...IT'S FINE, I DON'T CARE
EITHER WAY, WITHOUT ME I BET YOU WERE ABLE TO DESTROY THE COMPUTER?


THIS IS YOUR PUNISHMENT
FOR HAVING GONE OFF SOMEWHERE AT A VITAL POINT IN TIME

IT IS HARSH FOR ME TOO
WHEN I SEE YOU SUFFERING SO, I MAY EVEN CRY...
EVEN FROM BEHIND I CAN TELL HE'S LAUGHING!!

I TOLD YOU BEFORE, THERE'S NO POINT TO ME BEING THERE!!
EVEN HAL SAID SO!!
ISN'T THIS A FIGHT BETWEEN YOU AND HAL!?
NOT NECESSARILY

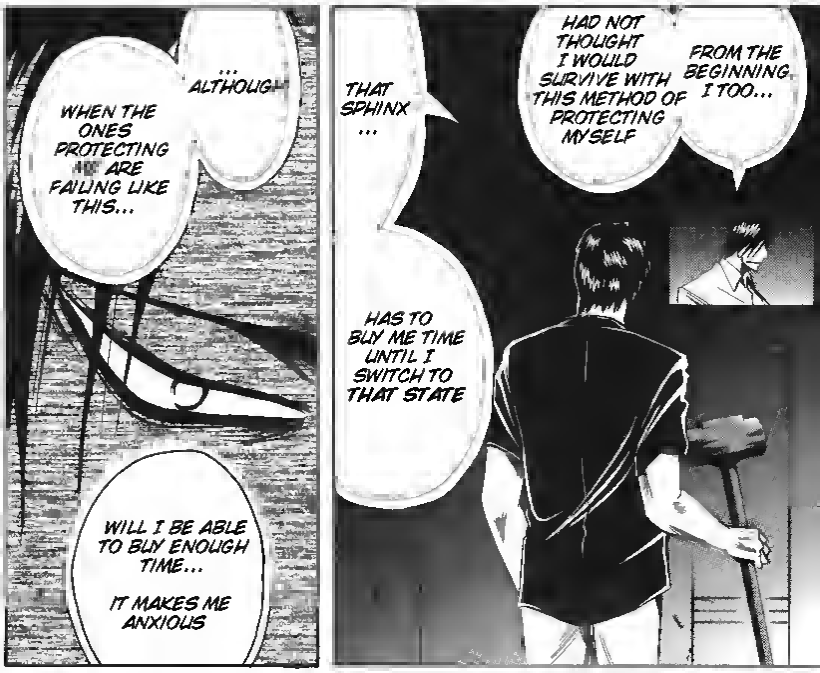
HM
CERTAINLY THERE WAS NO PROBLEM THIS TIME
ぐい
SO!!

LETTING YOU TALK TO HIM WAS IN PREPARATION FOR THAT
PERHAPS YOU WILL BE NECESSARY AT SOME POINT
I HAVE NOT HAD THE "PUZZLE" YET AND THEREFORE...
ALTHOUGH I CAN DEVOUR IT, THE AMOUNT OF STRENGTH NECESSARY IS AN UNKNOWN QUANTITY

BUT I CAN'T THINK OF ANYWHERE I'D BE NECESSARY...
UMMM...

WITHOUT MYSELF OR MAYBE EVEN NEURO PUTTING IN AN APPEARANCE
MAYBE THIS CASE WILL BE OVER...
SINCE MR. HIGUCHI FINISHED HIS ANTI-ELECTRONIC-DRUG

DON'T WORRY, HAL
THE FINAL "SPHINX" AND I...
WILL BE SURE TO DEFEND YOU
IT'S A BAD SITUATION
WE CAN'T IGNORE NEURO BUT
THE POLICE HAVE GOTTEN THIS FAR


... ALTHOUGH
WHEN THE ONES PROTECTING ARE FAILING LIKE THIS...
WILL I BE ABLE TO BUY ENOUGH TIME...
IT MAKES ME ANXIOUS
THAT SPHINX ...
HAD NOT THOUGHT I WOULD SURVIVE WITH THIS METHOD OF PROTECTING MYSELF
FROM THE BEGINNING I TOO...
HAS TO BUY ME TIME UNTIL I SWITCH TO THAT STATE

YOU ARE USELESS
YOU WERE DEFEATED BOTH TIMES...
I DON'T THINK YOU CAN DEFEND ME
THAT'S WHY YOU HAVE ME...
HAL
YOU?
HUH...
YOU THREE... WERE THE ONES AT THE SIDE OF MY PREDECESSOR
BECAUSE I UNDERSTOOD THE STRUCTURE OF YOUR BRAINS...
IT WAS EASY TO CONTROL YOU AND PLACE YOU AS MY ASSISTANTS
THAT IS WHY, KOSHIBA TATSUO
YOU ARE DISMISSED

WAIT, PLEASE, HAL!!
I STILL HAVEN'T HIT THEM ENOUGH!!
I WANT TO HIT MORE AND MORE PEOPLE...
BUT
THAT LEVEL IS ALREADY USELESS
NOT JUST EASY TO CONTROL
BUT NOT CAPABLE...
OFF
パチーン
ド
NOW THEN...
LET'S HAVE A CHANGE OF PLAYERS!!

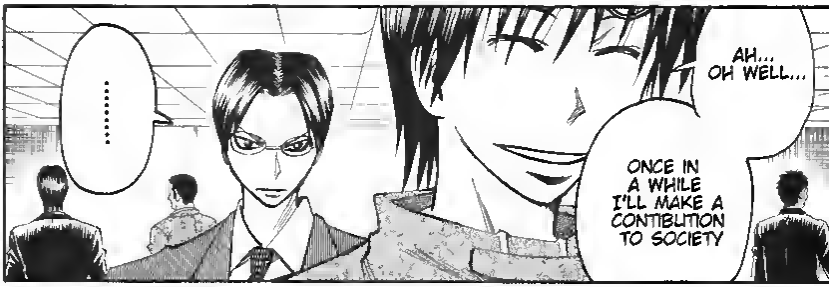
NOW THAT THE ELECTRONIC DRUG HAS LOST ITS EFFECTIVENESS
WE HAVE MADE PREPARATIONS TO GIVE OUR FULL SUPPORT TO INVESTIGATION OF THE CRIMINAL!!
HARUKAWA EISUKE IS REGARDED AS THE RINGLEADER!!
THE SUPER-COMPUTER THAT HE USED TO CARRY OUT THE CRIME...
WILL BE ESPECIALLY CONSPICUOUS, SINCE IT SHOULD NOT BE EASY TO MAINTAIN!!

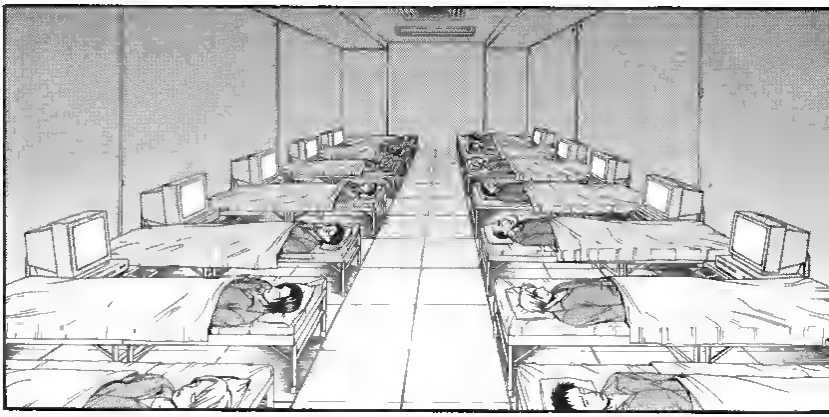
おうッ
THE CREDIBILITY OF THE POLICE DEPENDS ON IT!!
WE HAVE TO FIND IT!!

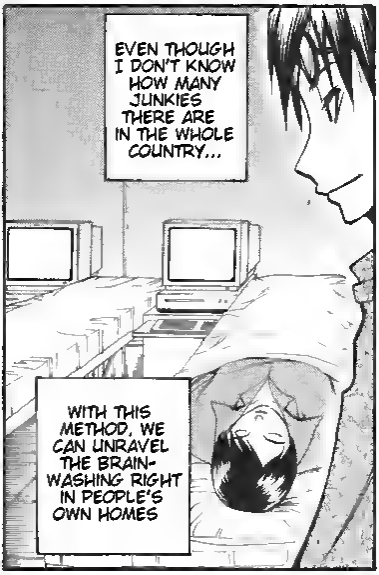
.....
IS SOMETHING BOTHERING YOU, HIGUCHI
EVEN THOUGH YOU GOT CREDIT FOR IT ALL

SEEMS LIKE IT WILL BE UNEXPECTEDLY EASY TO CLEAN UP, MR. USUI
AAH
HOW BORING

...NOT REALLY ...
JUST, EVEN THOUGH THERE WERE A BUNCH OF OTHER THINGS I WANTED TO TRY
IF THAT'S ALL IT TOOK TO SOLVE IT, IT WASN'T TOUGH AT ALL...


.....
AH... OH WELL...
ONCE IN A WHILE I'LL MAKE A CONTIBUTION TO SOCIETY




EVEN THOUGH I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY JUNKIES THERE ARE IN THE WHOLE COUNTRY...
WITH THIS METHOD, WE CAN UNRAVEL THE BRAIN-WASHING RIGHT IN PEOPLE'S OWN HOMES

AS THEY AWAKENED AND ACCESSED THE VACCINE I MADE...
ACTUALLY, THERE WAS NO PROBLEM AFTERWARDS
THEY FAINTED AGAIN AND THE PROCESS REPEATED ON THEIR WAY TO RECOVERY

I'D LIKE TO SEE WHAT KIND OF A FACE YOU'RE MAKING NOW, HARUKAWA...
THE COMPUTER USED AS A BRAIN-WASHING TOOL...
CAN BE USED TO UNRAVEL THAT BRAIN-WASHING TOO
YOU MUST BE FRUSTRATED, HUH
OH
AFTER HE REALLY GOT IT...
EVEN THOUGH HE WOULD HAVE STAYED LIKE THAT IF HE COULD
IT'S A PITY HIS BRAINWASHING WAS UNDONE, KATSURAGI
HE REALLY TUCKED HIS SHIRT INTO HIS PANTS MORE THAN I COULD HAVE IMAGINED
TIME TO COME OUT NOW
YOU CAN'T ALWAYS KEEP YOURSELF COVERED UP
バ
ナ

YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE YOUR PANTS TUCKED INTO YOUR...
...HUH?

バッ
カチカチ
カチ
ダ
ダッ
WHY...
ARE THEY TUCKED IN EVEN MORE?
...WHAT?
カチ
THAT'S NOT THE VACCINE!!
WHAT HE'S ACCESSING RIGHT NOW IS...
ピュー
イイイイイイ
THE ELECTRONIC DRUG!!

AGAIN..
...HAAH, HAAH
MOE MOE...
I WANT TO...
YOU SHOULD BE UNDER THE CONTROL OF MY VACCINE!!
I DIDN'T GIVE YOU THE POWER TO
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!!
S-STOP
ACCESS THE ELEC-TRONIC DR...

HIGUCHI YUUYA
TOO EASY...
!!
WHAT YOU CALLED IT...
SHALL I CALL IT IN THIS CASE TOO
NOBODY BUT MYSELF MADE THE ELEC-TRONIC DRUG
I NOTICED WHEN I MADE IT THAT THERE WAS A WEAK POINT THAT COULD BE USED TO REVERSE IT
WHEN THEY ARE SHOWN THE REVERSED IMAGE
AND THEN...
!!
THERE ARE INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS
THAT TAKE AND REVERSE THE INSIDE OF THE BRAIN

ガシ
ガシ
ガシ
ガシ
ガシ
WELCOME, HIGUCHI YUUYA

IT WAS A SURPRISE
TO FIND THAT THE POLICE WERE KEEPING A PET FIRST-CLASS HACKER LIKE YOURSELF
LIVING INSIDE HERE...
I CAN COLLECT INFORMATION INSTANT-ANEOUSLY
AFTER THAT WHILE CAUSING A GREAT DEAL OF DAMAGE IN SOCIETY A NUMBER OF TIMES...
YOUR SUPERIOR BRAIN MADE SURE THEY NEVER HAD ANYTHING ON YOU
THE FIRST TIME YOU HACKED WAS WHEN YOU WERE ELEVEN
WILL BE EASY TO PULL INTO MY ELECTRONIC DRUG
AND THEN
THE BRAIN OF A PERSON WITH STRONG CRIMINAL DESIRES LIKE YOURSELF...

JUST DO WHATEVER YOU WANT TO DO
ガバッ…

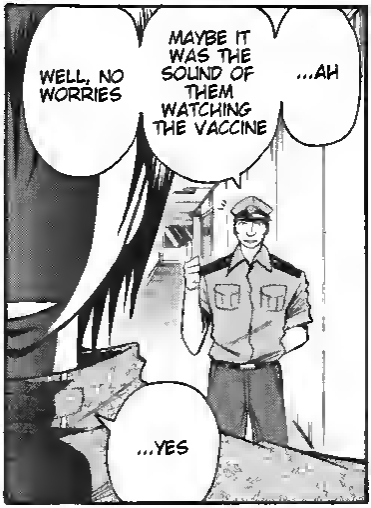
THAT…
WILL HELP ME

SO
LEND ME YOUR STRENGTH

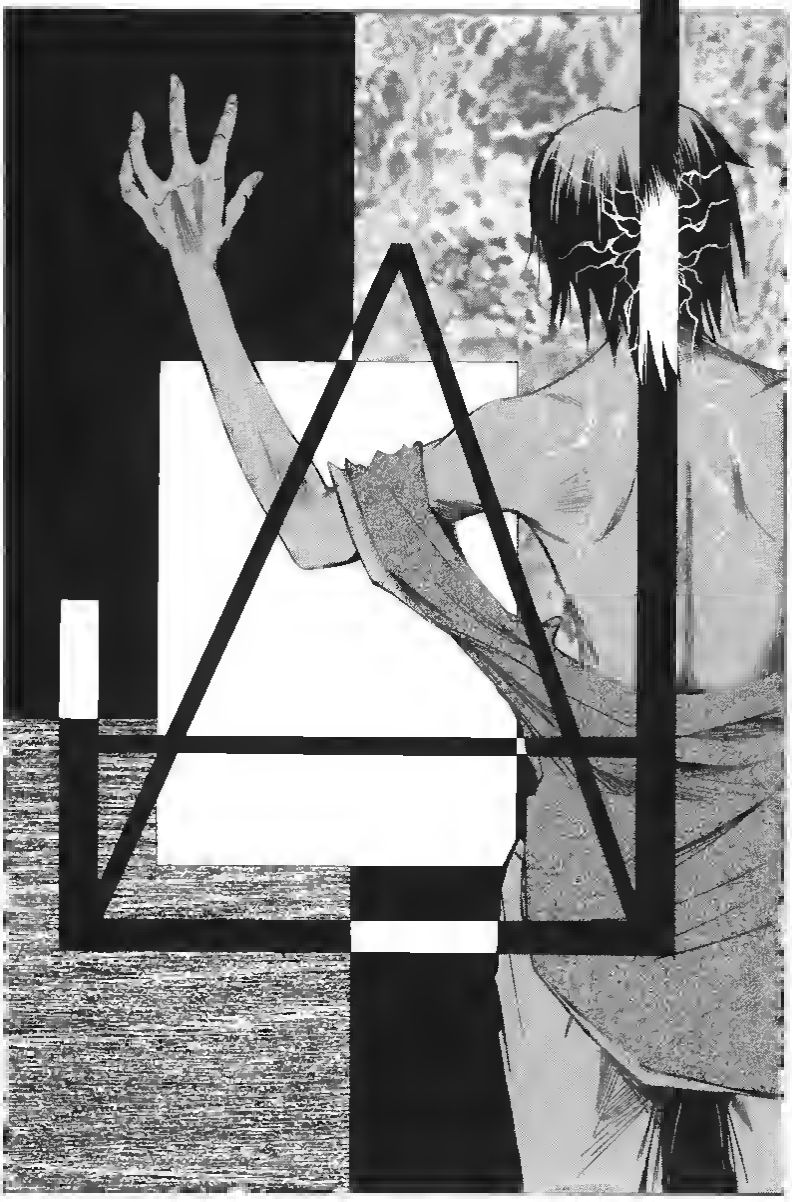
...I WILL APPOINT
AS THE FINAL GUARDIAN OF THE "SPHINX" THAT PROTECTS ME...
YOU... HIGUCHI YUUYA!!

IT WILL DEFINITELY COME INTO FASHION WITHIN 300 YEARS

CHAPTER 77 彼【HIM】

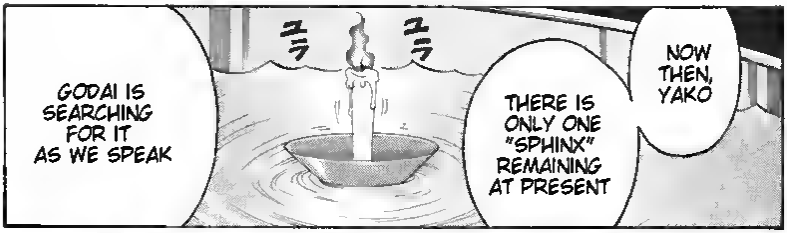


CHAPTER 77 彼【 HIM 】



TRANSLATION ANONYMOUS, EDITING/CLEANING ANONYMOUS

DISTRIBUTE FREELY UNTIL LICENSED TRANSLATIONS EXIST, ANONYMOUS DOES NOT FORGIVE!


NOW THEN, YAKO
THERE IS ONLY ONE "SPHINX" REMAINING AT PRESENT
GODAI IS SEARCHING FOR IT AS WE SPEAK

YOU WILL CERTAINLY PARTICIPATE NEXT TIME
GASOLINE
...HUH
ARE YOU TRYING TO TURN THIS INTO SOME KIND OF HABIT?
HAVING THE TORTURE AT THE BEGINING...

AT PRESENT?
...?
AN INCREASE OR DECREASE IN THE "SPHINXES"?
IS THERE ...

I DON'T WANT TO GO BUT...
I GUESS I CAN KEEP GOING SINCE THE END OF THE CASE IS NEAR
AND SINCE HE SAID THAT THERE WAS ONLY ONE LEFT AT PRESENT...

THERE ARE ENOUGH COMPUTERS WITH SUFFICIENT POWER...
TO LOAD AS MANY INTERFERENCE PROGRAMS AS HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE IN THIS COUNTRY
IF HE ACTS QUICKLY
HE SHOULD INCREASE THE NUMBER OF "SPHINXES" TO PROTECT HIMSELF AS MUCH AS HE CAN
...!!
...SO
WE MUST ACT QUICKLY
HE COULD CAPTURE A NEW COMPUTER
AND BUILD A NEW "SPHINX"
IF HE GATHERED SOLDIERS AND COMMANDERS
BY CHANCE HE HAD THREE ON HAND

IF HE DOES SO, I MAY TRY ALL I WISH
BUT IN BRIEF...
MY HANDS MAY NEVER REACH THE "PUZZLE" IN HAL'S CENTRAL CORE

...
IT LOOKED LIKE HAL WAS BEING HUNTED DOWN...
MAYBE THERE WAS STILL SOMETHING THAT COULD BE DONE

IF YOU DO NOT, I WILL SPLIT OPEN YOUR CRANIUM...
AND PUT A CRAB IN, INSTEAD OF YOUR WORTHLESS BRAIN
SHUT THE HELL UP AND WAIT!!
IT TAKES TIME TO SEARCH ALL THE PLACES THE LAST COMPUTER COULD BE!!

...SPEAKING OF WHICH, GODA!
HURRY UP AND DEDUCE THE LOCATION OF THE FINAL COMPUTER

GOOD WORK
NOW PERHAPS WE WILL TAKE A LITTLE EXPEDITION
...BUT PROBABLY
THIS ONE HERE'S PRETTY SUSPICIOUS
I'LL SEND YOU THE LOCATION
YOU ARE A FIRST-CLASS CRIMINAL
.....
HIGUCHI YUUYA

THE PEOPLE THAT THE WORLD IN GENERAL THINKS OF AS THE MOST "DANGEROUS"...
ARE THE MOST "RELIABLE" ALLIES FOR ME
AND SO...
IT WAS EASY TO DRAW YOU IN AS A COMRADE
HIGUCHI
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO?
WHAT SORT OF CRIME WILL YOU PROTECT ME WITH?
IS MY ONLY FORTRESS TO DEFEND MYSELF AGAINST NEURO BUT
AT THE PRESENT TIME, THIS FACILITY...
...NOW THEN

YOUR...
ELECTRONIC DRUG...
CAN BE REBUILT...
TO BE EVEN STRONGER
OHO
EVEN THOUGH YOU MADE IT, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND
ONLY THE PEOPLE BEING CONTROLLED BY IT NOTICE..
THERE'S ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT
...MAKING IT LIKE "IF I JUST DO THIS"
I CAN PROGRAM THAT IN
AND USING THIS...
ALL PEOPLE CAN BE TURNED INTO CRIMINALS...

SINCE THE MAJORITY OF THE SOLDIERS I RAISED HAVE SERIOUS INJURIES AND ARE OF NO FURTHER USE ...
I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU
AND I AM DISSATISFIED WITH THE ABILITIES OF MY ASSISTANT TOO
HEH HEH HEH...
AS I EXPECTED
YOU TRULY ARE THE MOST RELIABLE
EVEN A LITTLE BIT WILL BE FINE
I JUST HAVE TO MAKE ENOUGH TIME
DEFEND ME WITH YOUR STRENGTH
MY PEACEFUL LAND, THE "PYRAMID"
TO ARRIVE AT...

ACKNOW-
LEDGED...
I UNDER-
STAND...
...HAL
ぐ
あ
あ
あ
あ
あ

ON THE
STREETS
TODAY...
SOMETHING
SPARKED OFF
ANOTHER
RIOT!!
IT'S NOT
STOPPING!!
THE ELEC-
TRONIC DRUG
HASN'T LEFT
PEOPLE'S
BRAINS!!

PERHAPS HIGUCHI...
WAS ALREADY GOTTEN BY IT
THE VACCINE HE MADE CAN'T BE USED ANYMORE
WE HAVEN'T HEARD FROM HIGUCHI!!
MR. USUI!!
COULD IT BE...
...I HEARD
NOT EVERYTHING
.....
BUT THEY WERE CALMING DOWN, MR. USUI
EVERYTHING WAS EXACTY AS WE'D BEEN EXPECTING...
...//
AND IN THAT TIME, ONE OF THEM HAS BECOME REALITY...
I HAVE HAD TWO MISGIVINGS ABOUT IT
VAGUELY BUT...
ONLY...

HIGUCHI'S COUNTER-ATTACK METHOD WAS ANOTHER STORY
THE POLICE DEPARTMENT PUT THE STRICTEST REGULATIONS ON INTERNET USE BUT...
CONSIDERING THE DANGEROUSNESS OF THE DRUG TO THE POLICE...
WHEN THE POWER OF THE ELECTRONIC DRUG...
OVERTOOK HIS BRAIN
AND CONTROLLED HIM INSTEAD. HE DIDN'T SHOW ANY SIGNS OF ACTING STRANGELY
HIS ATTRIBUTES, AS A DETECTIVE OR AS A CRIMINAL ARE TOP-NOTCH
IN OTHER WORDS, WE HAD TO BE PREPARED FOR THIS TO HAPPEN...
AT THE POINT HE WAS HIT IN THIS MISSION

IF HE USES HIS ABILITIES AND CRIMINAL DESIRES THOROUGHLY...
HIGUCHI MAY CHANGE INTO A FRIGHTENING ENEMY
.....
WE'LL TRACK DOWN HIGUCHI'S WHEREABOUTS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
...AND THE OTHER MISGIVING...
IS THAT DESPITE THIS, IT WORKS IN OUR FAVOR
THAT'S FRIGHTENING, TOO
バターン
.....

ALL OF OUR PLANS FOR DEALING WITH HARUKAWA HAVE RUN OUT BUT...
IF WE CAN SECURE HIS LAST COMPUTER...
WE'LL WIN

SINCE WE'RE INVESTIGATING THE COUNTRY THOROUGHLY
EVEN CHECKING SEAPORTS AND AIRPORTS TO MAKE SURE HE DOESN'T LEAVE THE COUNTRY

...WHAT ARE YOU THINKING, HARUKAWA?
AND WHAT ARE YOU STILL PLANNING...
AS THE MEANS TO PROTECT YOURSELF...?

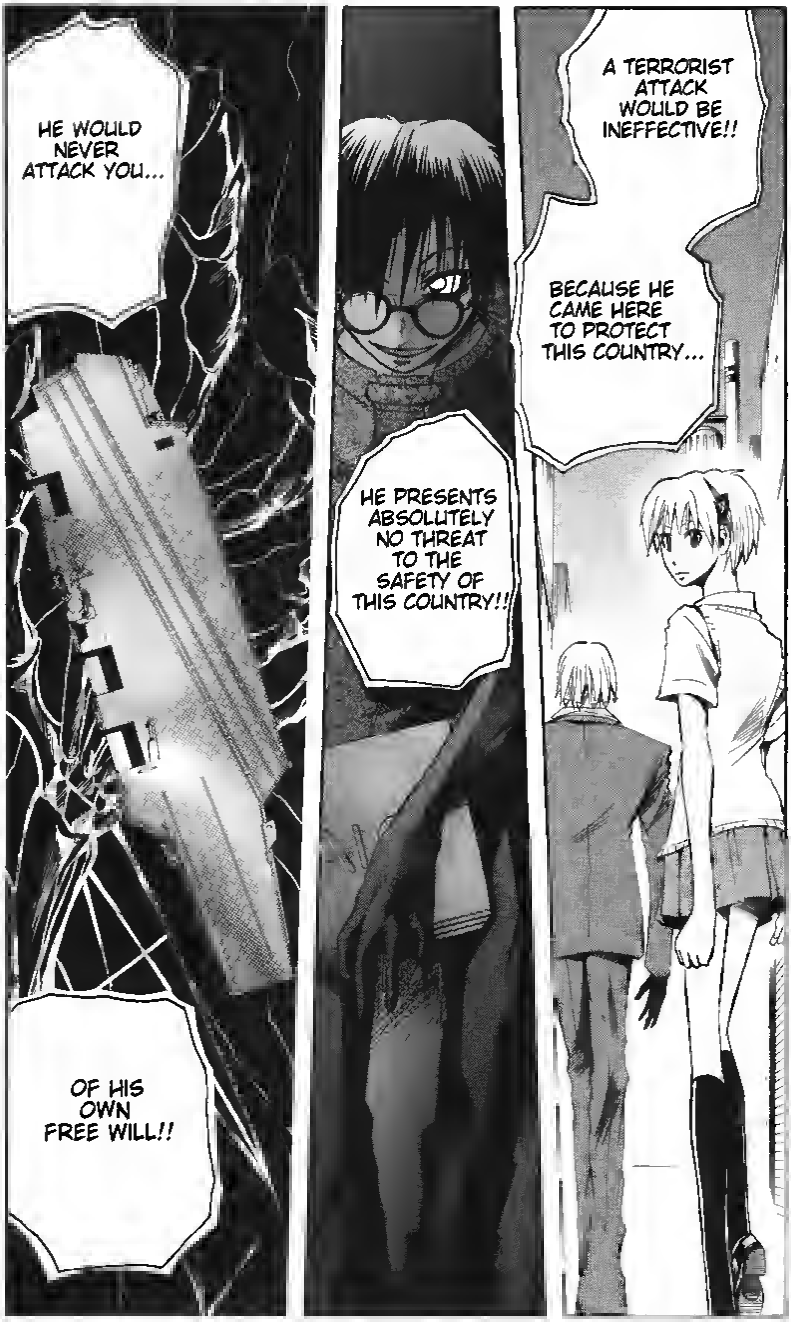
THE MAN IS CLEAR-HEADED...
WHERE WOULD HE PUT HIMSELF UNDER THESE DANGEROUS CIRCUMSTANCES?

!
ザ
WHAT WITH THE NEXT ATTACK THE ENEMY MAY USE
NOW THEN
ジュッ
WE ARE GOING, YAKO
ほっ
GEEZ ..
WHY ALL THE MEANINGLESS HARASSMENT...
WE CERTAINLY CANNOT BE CARELESS
IF THEY USE FIRE, ISN'T THIS GOING TO BE DANGEROUS?
HUH?
.....
IF YOU DO NOT, I WILL SET YOU ON FIRE HERE AND NOW
HURRY UP
バタ...

MAY I ASK A QUESTION?
GO AHEAD!
AND WE THANK THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY FOR BEING UNDERSTANDING AND GIVING US YOUR KIND SUPPORT
AS PLANNED, 'HE' WILL ARRIVE TOMORROW
COMMANDER OF THE FAR EAST OCCUPATION FORCES
MARK HESTON
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE WELCOMING HIM INTO THE MIDDLE OF OUR DETERIORATING PEACE
IS THAT WITH THE TERRIBLE CONDITION THE COUNTRY IS IN NOW...
THE WAY OF THINK-ING
FROM THE LOCAL RESIDENTS...
THERE IS A DEEP-ROOTED OPPOSITION TO HIM ENTERING THE COUNTRY ON THE BASIS OF SAFETY BUT
WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE MATTER?
SURELY YOU'RE TAKING ALL POSSIBLE COUNTER-MEASURES AGAINST TERRORISM?

IGNORANT MONKEYS
ブラッ
N-
NO NO, IT'S NOTHING!
HUH?
ゴゴゴゴゴゴ
THAT RATHER...
BECAUSE OF THAT, RIGHT NOW!!
HE IS NEEDED BY THIS COUNTRY!!
FURTHER-MORE!!
THERE IS NO CHANCE OF AN ACCIDENT RELATED TO HIM HAPPENING
THE INFORMATION THIS COUNTRY HAS SHOWN IT FULL WELL!!

THE NUCLEAR POWERED AIRCRAFT CARRIER "OSWALD"...
IS AN INVINCIBLE FORTRESS!!

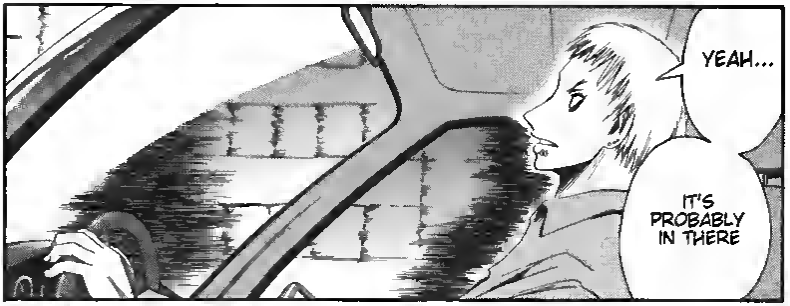

A TERRORIST ATTACK WOULD BE INEFFECTIVE!!
BECAUSE HE CAME HERE TO PROTECT THIS COUNTRY...
HE PRESENTS ABSOLUTELY NO THREAT TO THE SAFETY OF THIS COUNTRY!!
HE WOULD NEVER ATTACK YOU...
OF HIS OWN FREE WILL!!

CELEBRATING THE 30TH
ANNIVERSARY OF KOCHI-KAME

WE HAVE THE GREATEST
RESPECT FOR YOU

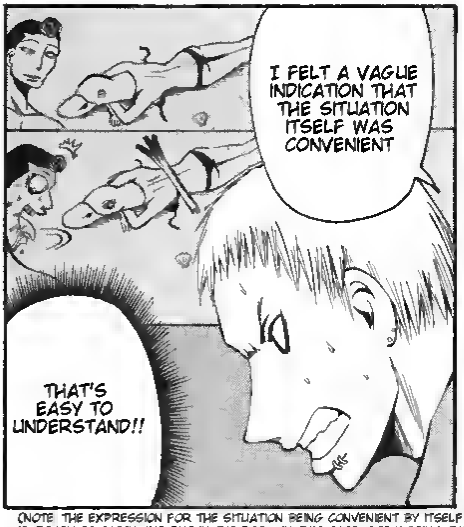
CHAPTER 78
YEAH...
YEAH...
I UNDER-STAND, HAL...
BECAUSE IT'S JUST LIKE I SAID...
THERE'S NOTHING...
TO WORRY ABOUT...

I SEE IT NOW
AND YOU'RE NOT MISTAKEN, GODAI?
THE FINAL SUPER-COMPUTER IS...
CHAPTER 78 逃【 RUN 】

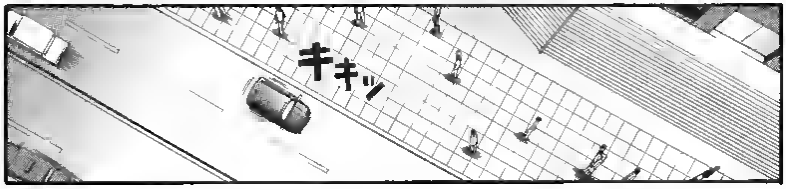

YEAH...
IT'S PROBABLY IN THERE

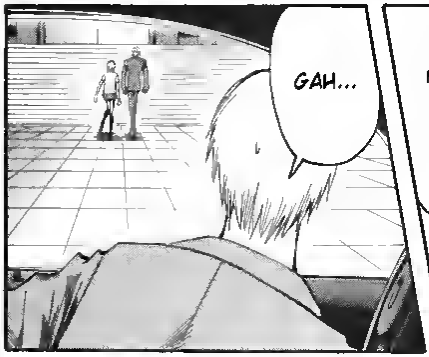
...BUT
BUT?
IN TERMS OF PEOPLE AND GOODS
IT FITS THE GENERAL PATTERN
WHEN YOU SEARCH, THE FLOW OF BOTH FROM THAT PLACE HAS GOTTEN STRANGE
I FIGURE IT'S A HIJACKED SUPER-COMPUTER
IF THEY FELT IT WAS IN DANGER
THEY COULD TRANSFER IT SOMEWHERE
WAS A SUCCESS-FULLY DOWNSIZED MODEL
THAT NEWEST MODEL OF SUPER-COMPUTER FROM THAT CORPORATION. .
IF THAT IS THE CASE, IT MAY BE TROUBLE-SOME
WE WILL HAVE TO SEARCH AGAIN BASED ON APPROXIMATE POSITION
...IT PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE DIFFICULT

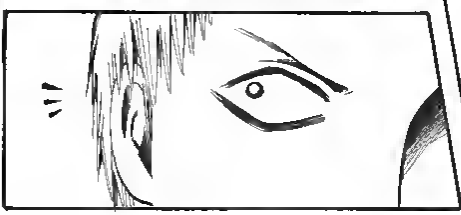
HEH HEH HEH
NICE, INNIT?
IT WAS REAL EXPENSIVE
BY THE WAY
THIS CAR'S REALLY COOL
YOU BOUGHT IT, MR. GODAI?
I'VE BEEN WORKING HARD FROM MORNING UNTIL NIGHT
WITH THE TITLE OF VICE-PRESIDENT, EVEN IF IT'S ONLY TEMPORARY...
I FIGURE I DESERVE A REWARD FOR ALL THAT
I'VE ONLY GOT THIRTY MORE PAYMENTS ON IT
SO DON'T GET IT DIRTY
BUT I SORTA SMELL GASOLINE...
MUST BE MY IMAGINATION
YEAH
JUST YOUR IMAGINATION
じと…

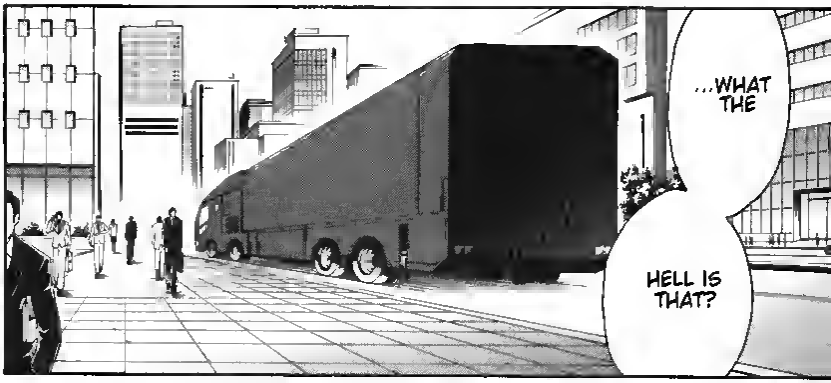


(NOTE: THE EXPRESSION FOR THE SITUATION BEING CONVENIENT BY ITSELF IS LITERALLY "AN ONION ON A DUCK'S BACK" IE. READY TO CATCH AND PUT IN THE POT — IN THIS CASE, GODAI BEING THE DUCK THAT WAS READY TO LOSE)

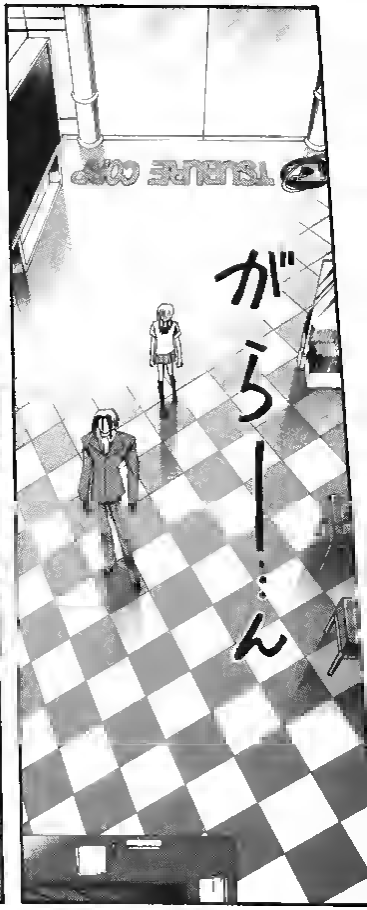







...WHAT THE
HELL IS THAT?

...NOBODY'S HERE, NEURO
HM...
THEN THIS MUST BE THE PLACE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IN THE TWO FACILITIES THAT NEURO HAD ATTACKED SO FAR...
WERE GATHERED UP AND LOCKED AWAY IN A DIFFERENT PLACE
I HEARD THAT THE EMPLOYEES OR RESEARCHERS THAT DIDN'T GET BRAIN-WASHED ..

BECOME A FRIGHTENING NEST...
...HAD EVEN THIS BUILDING
OF PEOPLE BEING CONTROLLED BY THE ELECTRONIC DRUG
...BUT, NEURO
OUT OF THE THREE PEOPLE...
IF SO, IT'S PROBABLY HIM
I WONDER?
SINCE HE WAS HELD BACK THE LAST TWO TIMES
THE ONLY ONE LEFT MUST BE...
MR. KOSHIBA
ピッ...
ピッ...
ピッ...
THE ENEMY IS DESPERATE TOO
ビ ビ
ビ ビ
HE WOULD DO ANYTHING TO KILL ME

!!
!!
FOR INSTANCE, LIKE SO...
USING THE BUILDING ITSELF AS A SACRIFICE

WHA...
KYAAAAAAAA
WHAT THE HELL!?
THAT'S THE BUILDING THEY WENT INTO

...COME ON OUT, NEURO
FROM WHAT I'VE BEEN TOLD BY HAL...
THIS GREAT AN ATTACK...
WON'T BE ENOUGH TO KILL A "DAEMON" WILL IT...?
...SEE, I WAS RIGHT

HUH...
...OHO
THE THIRD ONE IS YOU
ゲホ
ゲホ
ゲホ
WHY...
ARE YOU HERE?
ポリ
MR. ... HIGUCHI?
ポリ
...COULD IT BE...
ポリ

HEY
...KATSURAGI
IT'S SO REFRESHING...
TO ACT ON MY CRIMINAL DESIRES
HAL TAUGHT ME
THIS PLEASURE
ガリ
ガリ
ガリ
ガリ
ガリ
ガリ
...!?
...NOW THEN, NEURO
FROM HERE ON...
I THOUGHT I MIGHT HAVE A RACE WITH YOU

...AND SO NOW, IT'S INSIDE THIS TRAILER
ゴソ
...OHO
IF YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT THE SUPERCOMPUTER HERE, IT CAN BE TRANSPORTED PRETTY ROUGHLY
YOU MIGHT KNOW, BUT
THE PACKING, CONNECTIONS, AND THE REST WERE A PAIN BUT
WE MANAGED TO COMPLETE THE RUSH JOB A LITTLE WHILE AGO
I COULDN'T
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER TO RUN OFF LIKE THIS BUT
HAL'S VIEW WAS...
グィイイ・ン
THAT IF HE COULD, HERE AND NOW
HE WOULD STOP YOUR BREATH AT THE SOURCE
WITH THIS SUPER-COMPUTER AS THE BAIT

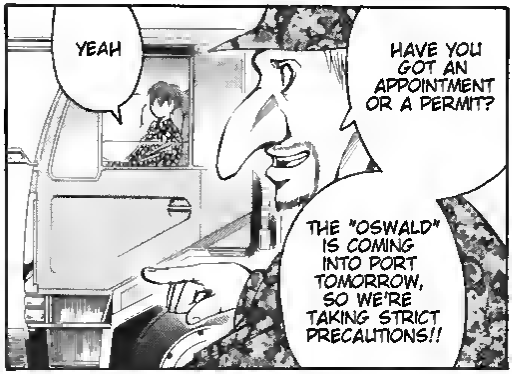
WELL
...
ふわ
OF COURSE, I CAN RUN AWAY FROM YOU
MAKE YOU SEARCH AND RUN AWAY, MAKE YOU SEARCH AND RUN AWAY
AND JUST KEEP DOING THE SAME THING OVER AND OVER
WHAT DO YOU THINK NEURO?
ギャギャギャッ

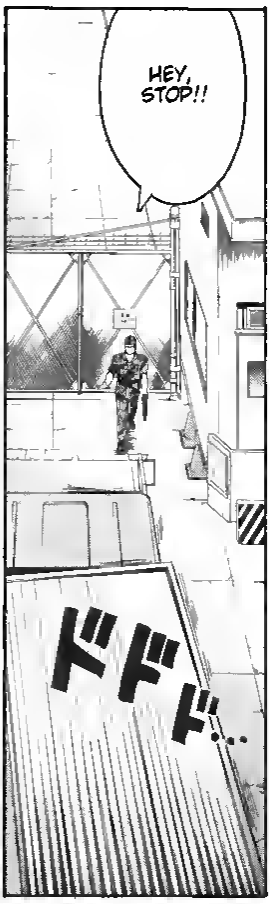
ひょい
GOTTEN BY THE ELEC-TRONIC DRUG...!!
OH NO...
MR. HIGUCHI...
WE ARE BORROWING YOUR CAR, GODA!
HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH MY CAR!!
AND WHO THE HELL WAS HE IN THE FIRST PLACE...
WHAT!?
GHERK
ゴ
DON'T GIVE ME THAT "I CAN'T?" LOOK AGAIN!!
.....
NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU DO IT I..
WAIT A MINUTE!!
THAT'S THE VALUABLE CAR I JUST BOUGHT!!
WITH YOU DRIVING IT...
ドンドン

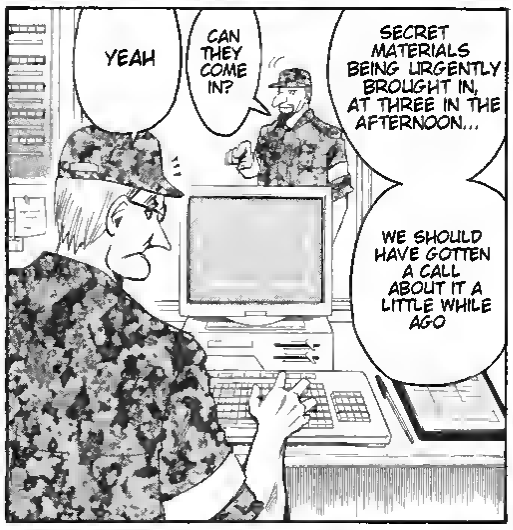
PLEASE
THIS IS IT
キィ
ビル
ドドドドド
…!!

PROBABLY WON'T MAKE IT BACK
THAT CAR...
ガン
ガン
ブオオオオ...
がくっ
THE POWER OF THE UPGRADED ELECTRONIC DRUG...
WELL, COME ON AND FOLLOW ME
THE REASON THE PREVIOUS TWO "SPHINXES" FAILED...
WILL BE ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU BOW DOWN BEFORE IT
WAS THAT THEY STUCK TO STAYING IN ONE PLACE AND DEFENDING

FAR EAST OCCUPATION FORCE
YOKOSHIMA NAVY BASE


YEAH
HAVE YOU GOT AN APPOINTMENT OR A PERMIT?
THE "OSWALD" IS COMING INTO PORT TOMORROW, SO WE'RE TAKING STRICT PRECAUTIONS!!


HEY, STOP!!
ドドド…


YEAH
CAN THEY COME IN?
SECRET MATERIALS BEING URGENTLY BROUGHT IN, AT THREE IN THE AFTERNOON…
WE SHOULD HAVE GOTTEN A CALL ABOUT IT A LITTLE WHILE AGO

IT'S DIFFERENT FROM THE "SPHINX"...
THE PEOPLE HERE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT TRANSPORTING IT...
BUT THAT'S SOME HUGE MACHINERY!
YEAH
PLEASE DON'T TOUCH IT TOO MUCH
HUH?
NOTHING
I'M PASSING THROUGH
THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK, SECURITY
YOU'RE WELCOME
AS FAR AS INTRUDERS GO, EVEN A BABY ANT WOULDN'T MAKE IT PAST US!!

...IT'LL SURVIVE

...ABSOLUTELY!!

HIGUCHI YUUYA'S CRIMINAL DESIRE...
IS "THE DESIRE FOR CHAOS", YOU COULD SAY
WISHING TO CREATE A LAWLESS WORLD OF CRIMINALS
CHAPTER 1 [CHASE]

IT'S SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM MY GOAL
BUT, HE...
ゴソ
オオ

24 FunKus
IS JUST THE TALENTED INDIVIDUAL THAT I WAS LOOKING FOR
オオ
オーオ

AS SAID BY SUN TSU
THOSE SKILLED IN MOVING THE ENEMY USE A FORMATION TO WHICH THE ENEMY MUST RESPOND
CHAPTER 79
追【 CHASE 】
COME AND CHASE ME, ENEMIES OF HAL
THIS "SPHINX" THAT YOU'RE FISHING FOR
WILL DRAW YOU INTO THE NET OF MY TRAP

EVEN IF YOU WANT TO FOLLOW MR HIGUCHI AND THE "SPHINX"..
YOU'RE DRIVING THE CAR LIKE...
キキキーキ
T-THIS IS CRAZY, NEURO!!
EEEK
HM
SPEAKING OF WHICH, THIS IS MY FIRST TIME DRIVING
BECAUSE IT CAN REACH MACH SPEED IN ONE SECOND...
THE G-FORCES WOULD TEAR UP YOUR BODY
WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRANSFER TO IT?
I HAD GOTTEN ACCUSTOMED TO RIDING THE DAEMON WORLD TOOL
777 Tools of the Daemon World
EVIL RAPID

NEVER MIND THIS COMPLICATED CITY CENTER
HE MUST HAVE SOME KIND OF PLAN, I SUPPOSE
BUT WHAT IS HE INTENDING TO DO
RACING WITH THESE TWO VEHICLES...
SOONER OR LATER WITH OUR SMALLER TURNING RADIUS, WE WILL OVERTAKE HIM
WAS ORIGINALLY "A CONVENIENT HELPER"
THE MEANING OF "HACKER"
AND THEN
IT LED TO MEANING A CRIMINAL WHO CAN SKILLFULLY POKE HOLES IN SYSTEMS
TO A PERSON WHO HAD AN IDEA THAT COULD BE USED TO MAKE A GOOD JOB OF THINGS DESPITE POOR INGREDIENTS
THAT CHANGED
AND BECAME HOW THEY WERE REFERRED TO
カタ
カタ
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カタ

REVERSE-ENGINEERING THE ELECTRONIC DRUG WAS AN EFFECTIVE COUNTER-ATTACK
AND NOW THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE IMPROVED DRUG HAS BEEN SHOWN
WHICHEVER MEANING YOU CHOSE TO USE, HIGUCHI YUUYA IS A SUPERB "HACKER"!!
ガキキ
WELL...
EVERY INGREDIENT I PREPARED...
HE HAS USED THOROUGHLY!!
キィィッ
コリッ
WAAH
KYAA
WHAT'S UP WITH THOSE TWO...
THAT'S PRETTY DANGER-OUS...
IS THAT A CAR CHASE?

WELL, WE HAVE TO KILL THEM
YEAH
ガチャ
ガチャ
ガチャ

ガガガガ
THERE'S A HUGE GANG OF CYCLISTS COMING UP BEHIND US!!
ガガガガガガガ
NE
NEURO!!
ARE THEY NOW
...HMPH
HAHA
A SURREAL IMAGE, ISN'T IT?
ALL THE PASSERS-BY IN THE CITY ARE ATTACKING YOU
IT'S THE WORLD OF CHAOS THAT I'M AFTER

I AM HACKING ONE AFTER THE OTHER
THE COMPUTERS IN THE BUILDINGS ADJACENT TO THE ROAD WE'RE ON
THE ELEC TRONIC DRUG I MADE VERSION 2.0...
IS DRILLING INTO THE PEOPLE USING THEIR COMPUTERS AT WORK
ガタ
ガタ
ガタ
チュイイイ
THE ABILITY FOR MYSELF AND THE "SPHINX" TO ISSUE ORDERS SIMUL- TANEOUSLY...
MAKES THAT CONTROL POSSIBLE
チュン
AND WHILE IT CAN'T AUTOMATICALLY CREATE A TRICK
ダダダ
COMPARED TO HAL'S ORIGINAL...
IT CONTROLS FOR LONGER
ガシャ

ニジャアアア
IT ACTS FASTER
THE PERCENTAGE OF CONTROL IS HIGHER
SOLDIERS THAT CAN JUST ACT PURELY ON ORDERS ARE THE MOST APPROPRIATE ONES
バッバッ
AND NOW THE ORDER I GAVE THEM WAS
TO "FINISH OFF THE PEOPLE FOLLOWING BEHIND ME"
FOR WHEN FOLLOWING ANOTHER WHILE BEING FOLLOWED
THE ENEMY IS AT THEIR WEAKEST

ウッ!!
WHA...
ドドド

IT EVEN
TEMPORARILY DRAWS UPON THE LATENT POWER OF THE BRAIN...
INCREASING HAL'S ELECTRONIC DRUG BY 180%!!
HOW DO YOU THINK THEY DESTROYED THE BUILDINGS JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO?
IT WAS WITH THEIR BARE HANDS
HMPH
NEU-ROOO!!
THEY'RE SLOWLY GETTING THROUGH!!
THEY'RE ALREADY...
ピン

ワッ
ワッ
777 TOOLS OF THE DAEMON WORLD EVIL SURROUNDER

THE ENEMY IS GRADUALLY INCREASING
BUT...
IT IS A DAEMON WORLD PLANT THAT PROTECTS ITS GOLDEN DECOY FROM THE ENEMY

IF WE STOP, HELL IS WAITING FOR US
HOW FAR CAN THEY KEEP GOING, I WONDER
NOW, ALL WE CAN DO IS KEEP FOLLOWING
OUR ONLY PATH IS TO DESTROY THE "SPHINX" FLEEING IN FRONT OF US!!
ドガッ
ガッ
キィィィ

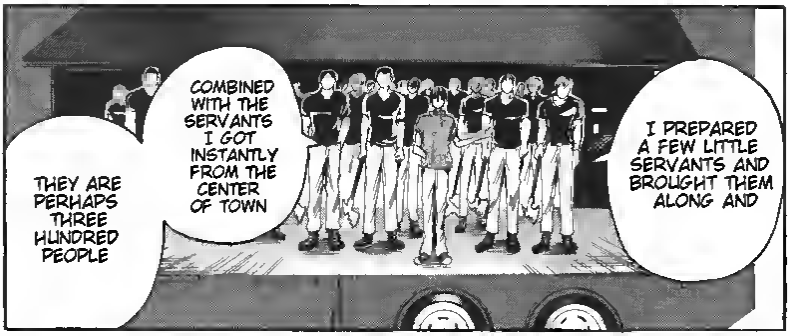
NEURO...
WE'RE ALREADY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE MOUNTAINS...
HOW FAR DO YOU THINK MR. HIGUCHI IS GOING TO RUN?
WE'VE GONE A PRETTY LONG WAY
コオオオオオオ
EVEN...
AFTER THEY INCREASED IN THE CITY...
THE PEOPLE FOLLOWING US
I DON'T GET THE FEELING THEY'VE DROPPED BACK AT ALL!!
HM...
ガン
ガン
THEIR INTERFERENCE HAS HAMPERED US AND THEY ARE NOT AFTER THE VEHICLE IN FRONT OF US
WILL THEY GATHER AND FINISH US OFF AROUND HERE, I WONDER

WE ARE STARTING TO WIND ALONGSIDE A RIVER
AT SOME POINT WE MUST CROSS A BRIDGE
FINISH US OFF...
YOU THINK THEY WANT TO KILL US?
うぶっ
ウ!!
ウ
THERE'S THE BRIDGE
NOW, SHALL WE BEGIN THE COUNTERATTACK...
ギャ
AFTER WE CROSS, WE CUT IT DOWN
WE SEARCH FOR AN EASILY DESTROYED BRIDGE...
IF THEY ARE NOT UNLUCKY, THEY MAY NOT DIE
ALL OF THOSE FOLLOWING US WILL END UP IN THE RIVER
OF COURSE
IT'S BEEN SIMILAR UP UNTIL NOW
MAYBE WE CAN EFFICIENTLY TAKE THEM ALL OUT AT ONCE

ブーン!
EVEN THIS TACTIC...
IS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE ELEC-TRONIC DRUG

NO WAY...
THE SCAFFOLD ..
DIS-APPEAR-ING....

ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴゴゴ
...NOW THEN
AT THE VERY LEAST KATSURAGI...
WELL, MAYBE NEURO IS ALIVE
BUT IT WAS A FAIR AMOUNT OF DAMAGE
ドズッ


I PREPARED A FEW LITTLE SERVANTS AND BROUGHT THEM ALONG AND
COMBINED WITH THE SERVANTS I GOT INSTANTLY FROM THE CENTER OF TOWN
THEY ARE PERHAPS THREE HUNDRED PEOPLE

COOPERATE, AND MOVE IN FOR THE KILL
AT THE BOTTOM OF THE VALLEY WITH NOWHERE TO RUN...
BE THOROUGH, YES

I WIN
NEURO